

LONDON (R) — Bright weddings will no longer be doomed to marry instead of soulless state offices, parts of Lords passed a bill allowing hotels, stately homes and other suitably respectable places to host civil wedding which now may only take place at a registry office. Bright church weddings, recognised as legal by the state, have been proving a big attraction among Americans this summer following the U.S. success of the comedy film *Four Weddings And A Funeral*. But British couples who forego the loss much of the pageantry of their wedding day, Bunting the act, Baroness Jay told her lord and lady colleagues in the unelected house that she married four months ago in a typically antiseptic 1950s bayside, 55, said the lighting had been "unattractively dimmed" — even for brides many years younger than I am" and prominent signs for nests and doilies had hung from the walls. But the act's advocates assured their tradition-bound colleagues it would certainly not lead to "Leegas-style wedding parlours" popping up across the land.

World population may jump one-third by 2025

WASHINGTON (R) — The population of the world one year by three billion people — from six billion now to nine billion people — in 25 years, a population explosion. The Population Reference Bureau, which keeps tabs on population growth, said the new estimate by Austrian scientist Wolfgang Lutz, is about 500 million people more than projected earlier by the World Bank and the United Nations for the year 2025. Mr. Lutz research at Austria's International Institute for Applied Sciences predicts higher levels in Africa and other developing nations than did the World Bank and United Nations, which partly account for his higher prediction. Population Reference Bureau, a private organization, said.

Islamic preacher held for kissing women's navels

JALAL LUMPUR (R) — Self-styled Islamic preacher has been detained in Malaysia for kissing the navels of his women followers as a "graduation" ritual. The New Straits Times reported Tuesday. The Islamic Religious Department in Malaysia's southern state of Johor picked up the undressed Indonesian Monday after his husband complained he had given all the money to him. At least 40 men, most of them government workers, have been identified as followers, said Justice Hashim, the director of the Islamic Department. He was prosecuted in an Islamic court.

Taiwan accepts women in army, ivy schools

Iran to bring plant under IAEA watch

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran has agreed to bring a nuclear power station of the southern town of Bushehr under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Tehran Radio said Wednesday. The radio quoted a statement from the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization as saying that Iran "remains committed" to the regulations stipulated by IAEA on nuclear non-proliferation.

New Gaza council starts work

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday inaugurated Gaza City's new local council formed of 10 non-partisan technocrats. Awn Shawa, head of the council, said his task was "to improve the efficiency of municipal administration, to improve services provided to citizens with attention to electricity, roads and sanitation." After seven years of an uprising against Israeli rule the infrastructure and public services such as garbage collection and street cleaning are in a state of collapse. Mr. Shawa said the municipality would also intensify efforts to obtain from donor countries technical or financial assistance. Meanwhile, Sach Erakat, municipal affairs minister in the new Palestinian authority, said an official French delegation had agreed to help clean up Gaza City, which is to be twinned with Paris. The municipality is to function until local elections are held, possibly on Dec. 15. Mr. Arafat appointed the municipal council after months of wrangling over the participation of Islamic fundamentalist factions and other groups opposed to his autonomy agreement with Israel.

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Jordan, Israel and U.S. resume talks on Jordan Valley projects

Combined agency dispatches

HEBRON, occupied West Bank (AFP) — The number of Israeli policemen deployed in the occupied West Bank will be doubled from next week to 1,200 men, a police inspector said Wednesday.

The police commander made the announcement during a tour of Hebron and the adjacent Jewish settlement on Kiryat Arba. Police spokesman Eriz Bar Chen told AFP the decision was part of overall restructuring for the start of Palestinian autonomy which is to be spread from the Gaza Strip and Jericho across the West Bank.

The old police division of the West Bank into northern and southern districts will disappear and be replaced by a single "autonomy district" from Monday. The district headquarters will be temporarily housed in East Jerusalem until a new building is finished at the Jewish settlement of Maale Adumim, between Jerusalem and Jericho.

King Hussein, in a rare interview with Israel Television broadcast on Wednesday, said he hoped Jordan and Israel would sign a peace treaty by the end of the year.

The King and Mr. Rabin ended a 46-year state of war between their countries at the historic summit in Washington on Monday.

King Hussein, striding through the lobby of his Washington hotel, was asked by an Israeli television reporter if he would sign a peace treaty with the Jewish state this year.

He told the reporter, who identified himself to the King as an Israel television correspondent, "I hope that this will happen, yes."

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres have predicted that a

Jordanian-Israeli treaty would be signed within months.

"I cannot give any specific time" for a signing, the King said, adding: "I think both sides are determined to move ahead as rapidly as we can."

At the economic talks Fayed Tarawneh of Israel and U.S. Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross were expected to draw up an overall plan for developing the Jordan Valley.

The U.S. had already agreed to look favourably on Jordan's military needs as well, he said.

Mr. Rabin and his wife Leah visited King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor at the Four Seasons Hotel where they were staying.

Their common aim is "to make peace succeed by any means and to fight the enemies of peace," according to the Jordanian official.

King Hussein asked for U.S. aid to help Jordan launch a socio-economic programme to allow its people to "feel the positive effects of peace, since unemployment is touching 16 per cent there," Information Minister Jawad Anani told AFP.

In his speech to Congress, the King spoke of the disparity between his own country and Israel, Jordan's per capita income is \$1,200, while Israel's is \$8,000.

Congress is expected to approve a U.S. administra-

(Continued on page 7)

Self-rule talks make progress in Cairo; election in December

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) chief negotiator said Wednesday his team was nearing agreement with Israel on broadening autonomous Palestinian authority for health and education.

But he complained that Israel still had not complied with provisions of last May's Israel-PLO pact, including "safe passage" for Palestinians from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank town of Jericho.

"What is going on here is progressing fast, definitely we will finish education and health this time," negotiator Nabil Shaath said of the current round of talks, which began last week.

The teams still must discuss tourism and social welfare.

Dr. Shaath said he expected that Palestinian in the West Bank would have full control of education, health, taxation, tourism and social welfare by "sometime in August."

Israel's chief negotiator,

Major-General Danny Rothschild, confirmed the two sides were close on education and health issues but said the overall budget for autonomous Palestinian areas was "the main problem." He did not give details.

Dr. Shaath said difficult budget questions included who would collect taxes and how deficits would be funded.

Dr. Shaath repeated earlier criticisms over implementation on the May 4 Cairo accord. The agreement gave Palestinians limited autonomy in Gaza and Jericho. The teams are now negotiating the expansion of Palestinian authority to other Palestinian towns and villages in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Dr. Shaath said that Israel's failure to follow up on the accord and set up routes for Palestinians to use between Gaza and Jericho was "making life miserable" for families in both areas.

He also complained that

(Continued on page 7)

Bomb explodes in London for second time in 12 hours

LONDON (Agencies) — A car-bomb exploded Wednesday outside the offices of several Jewish groups, the second blast in 12 hours blamed on groups bent on derailing Middle East peace.

No one claimed responsibility for the attacks which injured at least 19 people, but Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin saw it as the work of "radical Islamic terrorists."

The Foreign Office said someone claiming to represent Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, had made a claim of responsibility for attacking the Israeli embassy on Tuesday. The claim was not made directly to British authorities, but the Foreign Office said.

Mohamed Nazzal, a Jordan-based representative of Forte Grand Hotel 25% discount on oriental embroidery perfumes and silver, for one week only.

had there been an overt police presence neither of these two tragedies would have occurred," said Eldred Tabachnick, president of the board of Deputies of British Jews.

Scotland Yard said police had been making regular checks and officers were close by at the time of the second explosion.

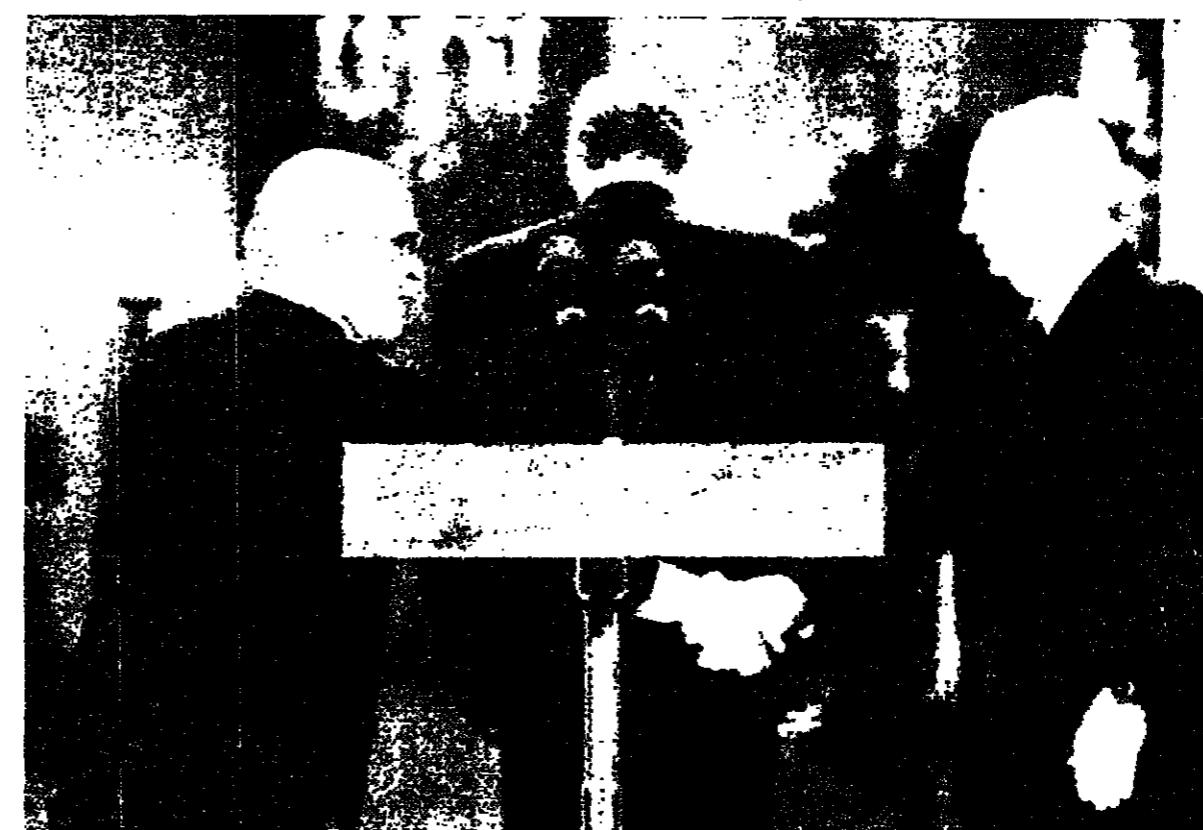
In Paris, visiting Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharara said Syria disapproved of the anti-Israeli and anti-Jewish bomb attacks.

Speaking after meeting French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, Mr. Sharara said: "Of course we are not at all happy about violence and sabotage."

Earlier Wednesday, Mr. Rabin said he believed there was a "Syrian role" and accused Lebanese Shiite Muslims of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah and Hamas of responsibility.

"There's never any total security, but I do believe that

(Continued on page 7)



His Majesty King Hussein shakes hands with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as U.S. President Bill Clinton turns and starts to leave after their joint press conference in Washington late Tuesday (AFP photo)

Regent, in message to King, voices Jordan's full backing for his efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday voiced Jordan's full backing of His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours for peace and for regaining Arab rights.

"Your current trip served as part of the endeavours inherent in the heritage of the Great Arab Revolt which rose to achieve freedom, unity and independence for the nation's rights in the holy shrines," Prince Hassan said.

The King's address to the U.S. Congress, Prince Hassan said, marked a "new stage in which the Middle East will be entering the peace revolution to ensure the dignity, freedom and rights of all peoples in the region and guarantee Arab rights in Holy Jerusalem and other holy places in line with U.N. resolutions."

In his speech to Congress, the King spoke of the disparity between his own country and Israel, Jordan's per capita income is \$1,200, while Israel's is \$8,000.

Congress is expected to approve a U.S. administra-

ment in which Jordan takes pride," he added. "Jordan has been keen in putting forth realistic solutions for the Jerusalem question providing for the nation's rights in the holy shrines."

"Indeed the achievement in Washington was not just a crowning of the efforts started with the Madrid conference, but was a result of Jordan's continued endeavours since 1967 when Jerusalem and the West Bank fell under occupation," he said.

The Regent stressed that the Jordanian people are fully behind their leader, supporting his efforts for peace.

Information Minister Jawad Anani said in a television interview in the United States that Jordan does not require the approval of any party for its own national decisions.

"King Hussein took his decisions which he declared in Washington after he had secured the blessings of his people and their representatives in Parliament who backed his endeavours towards a just and durable peace," Dr. Anani said.

(Continued on page 7)

Damascus says 'no' to Israel

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria, sticking to its view that "separate" peace deals can only harm the Arabs, said on Wednesday that rapid moves by Jordan and Israel would not force it to make concessions in its own talks with the Regent.

Mr. Nafeq-Nouri warned Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad to stay away from what he described as "the Western monstrosity."

In an apparent reference to the non-belligerency deal signed by King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington on Monday, Tishreen said "separate" deals would harm the interests of Arabs.

"Israel is saying that recent developments will be an element of pressure on Syria to soften its stand or that Syria will retreat from its basic demands calling for full withdrawal from the Golan and South Lebanon," Tishreen said.

"Syria does not submit to pressures and does not give concessions on its national soil. It could not be dragged into situations which do not serve the higher interests of the nation. Syria's history proves this fact."

Iran's parliament speaker Wednesday called on Syria, its staunchest Arab ally, to refuse to make peace with Israel.

The Tehran Times quoted

PLO wants Arab talks on Jerusalem

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called for an emergency meeting of the Arab League Wednesday to discuss the future of Jerusalem, after Israel recognised Jordan's historic role in the Holy City, a senior PLO official said Wednesday.

In Washington on Monday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein signed a declaration saying Israel would give "high priority to the Jordanian people are fully behind their leader, supporting his efforts for peace.

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It seems like they (the Israelis) are turning all the rights in Jerusalem into Islamic religious rights and then awarding them to someone else," Dr. Shaath said.

"Who gave Israel the right to decide who has rights over Islamic institutions in Jerusalem? It is not up to them to decide on the matter," he said.

Dr. Shaath criticised the accord for drawing a distinction between religious and political rights in the Holy City.

"If we want to separate religious and political issues, we must take account of the fact that all Arabs have an interest in the holy places in Jerusalem — the Christian and Muslim," he said.

"Jerusalem is not just important for the Palestinians. But certainly it is not just important for the Jordanians. It is important for all the Arab Christians and Muslims."

(Continued on page 7)

Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 28-29, 1994

Hrawi offers to curb Hizbollah

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Elias Hrawi has promised to curb guerrillas in South Lebanon once Israel agreed to withdraw and said he would send 25,000 Lebanese soldiers to establish security in the area.

Urging Israel to set a timetable for pulling out of its South Lebanon buffer zone — the last Arab-Israeli battleground in the Middle East — Mr. Hrawi said he would respond with measures to ensure the security that Israel wants in the south.

"We repeat that Israel should commit itself to abide by (U.N. Security Council) Resolution 425 and prepare a schedule for the withdrawal of its troops from South Lebanon," Mr. Hrawi said.

"In response, we will ensure tranquility and security on the border that is internationally recognised in South Lebanon."

"I will then work on sending 25,000 Lebanese soldiers to the south and will ask the resistance to stop its operations," Mr. Hrawi told the BBC's Arabic service in an interview carried by Lebanon's National News Agency.

Guerillas of the Hizbollah group daily harass Israel's 1,000 troops and their 3,000-strong local militia allies of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) in the so-called security zone."

They have killed 10 Israeli soldiers this year and wounded

ed dozens. Israel set up the 13-kilometre-wide buffer strip in 1985 as it withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon after its 1982 invasion to crush the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

It says the zone is to prevent guerrilla attacks on northern Israel, but it has been the scene of repeated military flareups between Israeli forces and Lebanese guerrillas, chiefly Hizbollah.

On Monday, Hizbollah fighters killed an Israeli officer and wounded 13 soldiers, pounding a military convoy with Sagger anti-tank missiles, mortars and machineguns.

A Hizbollah video of the battle on Lebanese television on Tuesday showed Sagger missiles scoring direct hits on at least two Israeli military vehicles and troops running for their lives.

Israel quickly vowed painful revenge and hinted that the attack was timed by Iran, which opposes Middle East peace moves, to mar the Washington summit in which Israel and Jordan ended a 46-year state of war.

The attack also came on the anniversary of a week-long Israeli blitz of South Lebanon that killed 150 people and made 300,000 flee their homes in retaliation for Hizbollah rocket barrages against northern Israeli settlements.



Elias Hrawi

Israel has repeatedly demanded that Lebanon disband Hizbollah and disarm its 2,000 fighters and establish calm on the border for six months before it will negotiate on a peace accord with Lebanon.

But Beirut says the guerrillas have every right to resist foreign occupation and it will not curb them until Israel gives a commitment to withdraw.

"We need a commitment from Israel that it will withdraw and assurances that it will do so," Mr. Hrawi said.

Lebanon would move in step with Syria in the peace process, and would talk peace with Israel only when it had withdrawn its troops from the country, he added.

"This is our stand and first Israel should implement its withdrawal from Lebanon, and after that we can speak about a peace accord."

Jamshid Shafii, 41, an Iranian living in Barnsley, England, and Paul Murphy, 42, of Orton Melbourne, England, were charged with conspiring to violate the U.S. Arms Export Control Act.

They were arrested Saturday at Orlando international airport and a federal magistrate on Monday ordered both held without bail pending trial.

Mr. Shafii and Mr. Murphy flew to Orlando last week to inspect the missiles and the seller's company for the Iranian government, according to an affidavit filed in court by U.S. Customs Service Agent David Moore.

To further the ruse, Mr. Moore said he accompanied Murphy in a twin-engine plane with a Stinger missile and two spare parts for an F-14 fighter plane. They were supposedly flying to St. Maarten in the Netherlands Antilles. That's where Mr. Murphy was supposed to pick up the missiles for shipment to Cyprus and then to Iran, Mr. Moore said.

Agents told Mr. Murphy the plane had developed mechanical problems and had to return to Orlando after flying 24 kilometres offshore, Mr. Moore said.

The United States canceled weapons shipments to Iran in 1979 after the revolution.

Some lower-level officials in Washington have reportedly advocated removing Syria from the State Department's list of nations involved in international drug trafficking as a reward for its participation in the Middle East peace talks.

The English-language Syria Times said Wednesday that two congressmen from New York, Charles B. Rangel, chairman of the congressional narcotics abuse and control caucus, and Benjamin A. Gilman, sent Mr. Assad a letter thanking him for his efforts.

The letter from Mr. Rangel, a Democrat, and Mr. Gilman, a Republican, singled out accomplishments in combatting illicit drugs production and trafficking at home and across the Lebanese border in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley, where Syrian and Lebanese forces have destroyed marijuana and opium fields.

Syria has stepped up its anti-drug efforts in recent years as part of its attempts to improve ties with the United States following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Spokesman Yannakis Cassiolides said the government also was protesting to UNESCO and other international organisations a reported new theft of icons from a church in the Turkish-occupied north of the island.

President Denktaş stated Monday he would refuse to meet the peace talks unless his breakaway Turkish Cypriot state were recognised, and the Court of the European Union withdrew its recent decision that ruled his state has no legal status.

The council resolutions call for the withdrawal of an estimated 35,000 Turkish troops and 50,000 mainland settlers, and the return to the north of 200,000 Greek Cypriot refugees.

Cyprus also has been pressing for action by the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation to protect ancient sites and shrines in the north from looting.

Mr. Cassiolides said a new protest to UNESCO was being made following a report in the Turkish Cypriot newspaper Kibris on Monday of a new theft of 13 icons of the 18th and 19th centuries from the Church of the Archangel Michael in the Turkish-occupied town of Kyrenia.

3 members of Abu Nidal organisation plead guilty

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Three members of the Abu Nidal International group pleaded guilty Tuesday to racketeering charges in a case involving secret tape recording that captured the killing of a 16-year-old girl.

Tawfiq Musa, 45, and brothers Saif Nujmeh, 35, and Lulu Nujmeh, 30, pleaded guilty to one count each of racketeering before U.S. District Judge Donald Stohr. Prosecutors said they each face up to 20 years in prison and a \$350,000 fine.

U.S. Attorney Edward L. Dowd said the three admitted their involvement in a racketeering enterprise that included smuggling money and information, buying weapons, recruiting members, illegally retaining passengers, obstructing investigation and helping in the planning of attacks. Sentencing for the three was set for Oct. 21.

A federal defendant, Zein Issa, 21, was on Missouri's death row during his teen years. He has pleaded guilty to the alleged extortion and murder conspiracy.

The death of Palestinian "Tina" Isa in 1989 at the Isa family's south St. Louis apartment was the only slaying carried out.

Agents investigating whether Mr. Zain Isa was involved with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had bugged his apartment and captured the girl's death of tape. On the chilling seven-minute recording, Isa shouted in Arabic, "die quickly, die, my daughter, die" as he stabbed her.

The girl's mother, Maria Isa, 50, held the girl down. She also was convicted and sentenced to death but the Missouri supreme court overturned her sentence last year and she is awaiting a rehearing.

At their murder trial, prosecutors said the Isa killed their youngest daughter for turning her back on Palestinian ways and becoming too Americanised.

But the federal charges were unsealed last year, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Agent James Nelson said Zein Isa and the others conspired to murder Tina to silence her.

The FBI described Abu Nidal, whose real name is Sabri Al-Banna, as the leader of a Palestinian group responsible for more than 90 attacks in 20 countries since it was formed in 1974.

Under the original indictment, the defendants could have faced life in prison. Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Eggert said prosecutors were pleased with the plea agreement, the terms of which were not released.

Mr. Eggert said a trial would have been expensive because of the security requirements and the costs of bringing in witnesses from abroad. He also said the case involved classified information, which the government would have had to make public.

Afghans set assembly poll for Oct. 23

ISLAMABAD (R) — A conference in Afghanistan has set Oct. 23 to elect a new government leadership for the war-ravaged country, the official Kabul Radio said on Tuesday.

It said the conference in the western city of Herat, also attended by embattled President Burhanuddin Rabbani, decided on Monday to hold a traditional Loya Jirga — or grand assembly — on Oct. 23 "to select the country's leadership."

The broadcast, monitored in Islamabad, did not explain whether the grand assembly, likely to be held in the capital Kabul, would elect only a president or a prime minister as well.

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STUDENTS HONOURED: Minister of Culture Jumaa Hammad Wednesday distributes awards to 21 Jordanian children who won in a competition for

talented children organised by the National Centre for Culture in Egypt. The children sent in contributions in drawing, poetry and writing.



Civil Defence Department Director General Lt. Gen. Aifi Ghoul and Austrian government grant director

Albert Haro inspect newly delivered equipment at CDD Headquarters in Amman (Photo by Rana Husseini)

CDD receives rescue vehicles from government of Austria

By Rana Husseini
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Civil Defence Department (CDD) Wednesday took delivery of the rest of the new rescue equipment which was provided as part of a grant presented by the Austrian government.

The grant of JD15 million was part of a protocol signed between the two governments that helped in adding new equipment to the CDD, according to Lieutenant General Aifi Ghoul, director general of the CDD.

Lt. Ghoul said the new equipment includes four

ambulances, three large water tankers, an expanded ambulance with a nine-patient capacity, and nine snow plows, six of them attached to fire engines.

"This grant which was the effort of the Austrian government was a great help to our department," Lt. Gen. Ghoul said.

The grant was the effort of His Majesty King Hussein and the understanding and support of the Austrian government," he added.

Albert Haro, director of the Austrian grant, said it was a great pleasure for the Austrian government to support the CDD in this manner.

Britain donates to CARE project

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — British Ambassador to Jordan Peter Hinchcliffe Wednesday donated \$600 to the country director of CARE International.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the ambassador said that the donation reflected the British government's concern to contribute to development schemes in local communities in Jordan.

The project in Ma'an is carried out in one of the poorest areas, and it entails active women's participation, said the ambassador.

In presenting the donation to the CARE director, Mr. Hinchcliffe expressed appreciation of CARE's activities and its services in Jordan.

Founded in the early 1950s CARE has been providing financial and in-kind assistance towards implementing income-generating and community-related projects in close cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development.

Turquoise, Anil Blue, pale mustard yellow or a stronger orange shade are the colours used for the

An anthology of Flamenco: Standing room only for Carmen Linares

By Angham Tamimi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — For the first time during the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, the Artemis Theatre Tuesday was standing room only for the performance of Carmen Linares. Tickets were sold out and the crowds were estimated at 1,200 people — some sitting on the dusty floor, others standing on both sides of the theatre awaiting Spain's most gifted Flamenco vocalist accompanied by her song-dance group.

Carmen Linares, 43, is the heiress of Flamenco art and has occupied a privileged place among her contemporaries.

Because of her knowledge in the difficult art of Flamenco, and the anthology of her repertoire, it can be said that her audiences witness an encyclopedic singer.

Born Carmen Pacheco Rodriguez, she takes her name from the town of Linares, the least known and developed region in Andalucia. She spent only the first ten years in her hometown, then she moved to Madrid with her parents.

"Singing was my hobby since childhood, but I gained my first professional engagement when I was 27," Ms. Linares told the Jordan Times. "I never studied anything related to music or dancing. In fact, I



Juan Andres Maya

stamped with some Arab flavour, and it seems that this flavour was tasted by Monday's audience.

As soon as Juan Andres Maya, 22, ended his first Flamenco dance, he was applauded with cries of "Ole" and "Bravo."

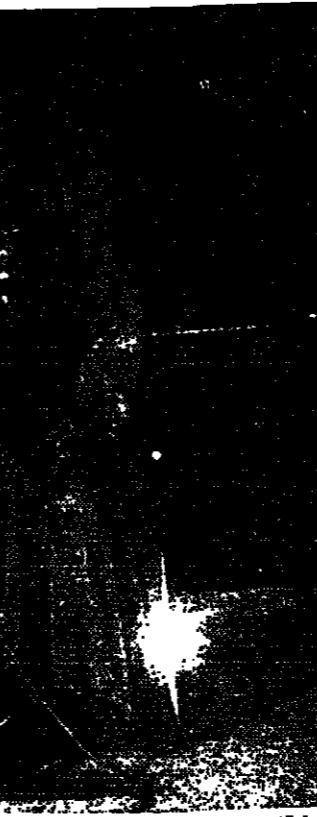
Mr. Maya's first performance was at the age of 10, and when he was 13, he



Carmen Linares

presented another performance in Egypt. Aiming at proficiency, Mr. Maya had a professor of Flamenco, and another one for classical dance that has some connection with Flamenco.

Mr. Maya loved flamenco since childhood. He also loved to learn anything related to it. "It has a



welcomed performances.

His solo dancing, he said, helps him earn an excellent living, especially in summer when he is used to having stressed programmes.

It was an unbelievable night culminating in a thunderous standing ovation with resounding cries of "Ole" and "Bravo."

building it and (protecting) its independence and sovereignty."

"But all this seems to be worth nothing with the government which insists to replace the people and their national and legislative institutions in deciding the present and the future of the country," charged the parties, saying they still "have hope" the minister of information will rectify this situation in the interest of the country, national unity and democracy.

The opposition groups,

which have been at the forefront of the thus far low profile and "symbolic" opposition to the talks, said they do not question the right of the government to propagate its position since it is the party conducting the negotiations with Israel. But they attempted to discredit its claim that its position represents that of all Jordanians.

In a memorandum sent to the information minister, the parties, which included the Islamic Action Front and other leftists and pan-Arabist opposition groups, expressed "discontent" with the government for having Jordan Television and Radio suppress their views which oppose the latest developments on the Jordanian-Israeli track of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations. They said the government has also exercised indirect pressure on the press which they said also failed to pass their positions on to the people.

"This organised behaviour

sheds doubt on the democratic transformation process and leads to division in the national front, weakens the national and regional role of Jordan and renders the country an easy prey to the

peoples," the opposition eight.

"Duty requires that the government stops turning its back to the national Jordanian institutions, which, represented by the political parties and all social and professional organisations, voiced their stand on the process of negotiations between Jordan and Israel," the opposition eight.

The parties, which declared July 25, the day when His Majesty King Hussein held his first public meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a day of national mourning, have thus far failed to present any tangible evidence to their claim that the majority of Jordanians are opposed to the peace talks.

The protest at the University of Jordan was organised by Muslim fundamentalists who oppose a negotiated settlement with Israel and advocate the elimination of the Jewish state.

"We oppose our flag flying side-by-side with the Israeli flag and our leaders shaking hands with our enemies," he said in a direct reference to King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin met for the first time publicly and signed a U.S.-blessed document en-

during 46 years of hostility and setting the ground for a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel.

The students, who held aloft a banner with verses from the Koran, accused the government of succumbing to "American and Zionist pressures and surrendering Arab and Muslim rights in Palestine and Jordan to the Jewish enemy."

Addressing the rally, Majdi Smadi, chairman of the Muslim fundamentalist-dominated student council, also accused the government of "hiding facts relating to the negotiations."

"We denounce the American-brokered peace project," the man told the crowd through a bullhorn.

"We call upon Jordanian people to resist the normalisation (of relations) with the Jewish state."

"We oppose our flag flying side-by-side with the Israeli flag and our leaders shaking hands with our enemies," he said in a direct reference to King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. Smadi demanded that Jordan withdraw immediately from the peace process.

Opposition parties demand change in 'one-sided' coverage of peace talks

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Eight opposition parties Wednesday accused the government of pushing the country back into the era of martial laws when opposing points of view were constantly suppressed.

In a memorandum sent to the information minister, the parties, which included the Islamic Action Front and other leftists and pan-Arabist opposition groups, expressed "discontent" with the government for having Jordan Television and Radio suppress their views which oppose the latest developments on the Jordanian-Israeli track of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations. They said the government has also exercised indirect pressure on the press which they said also failed to pass their positions on to the people.

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that took place in the capital or in other cities of the Kingdom so far was a one hour sit-in in downtown Amman Monday that was attended by about 200 people who represented the opposition eight.

A business-as-usual state of affairs prevailed in the Kingdom since the first public bilateral Israeli-Jordanian talks were held in Wadi Ara on July 18 and the only opposition came in the form of statements by the opposition parties.

AP adds: About 300 students Wednesday staged a sit-in and burned the Israeli flag in protest against the signing of a document ending the state of war between Jordan and Israel.

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Stepping into 'calligraphic landscapes'

By Ica Wahbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Balka's Art Gallery in Fuheis, a restored building itself, is hosting a different sort of "construction," that of Princess Wijdan Ali's oils "Calligraphic landscapes."

The artist, who wants to be called simply Wijdan, explains in a poised manner why she calls her art landscapes.

"I see more than letters in my representations. I see, for example a moon or a tree," she says pointing to several canvases. "Perhaps it is only me who sees them," she adds with a glint of smile in her luminous eyes.

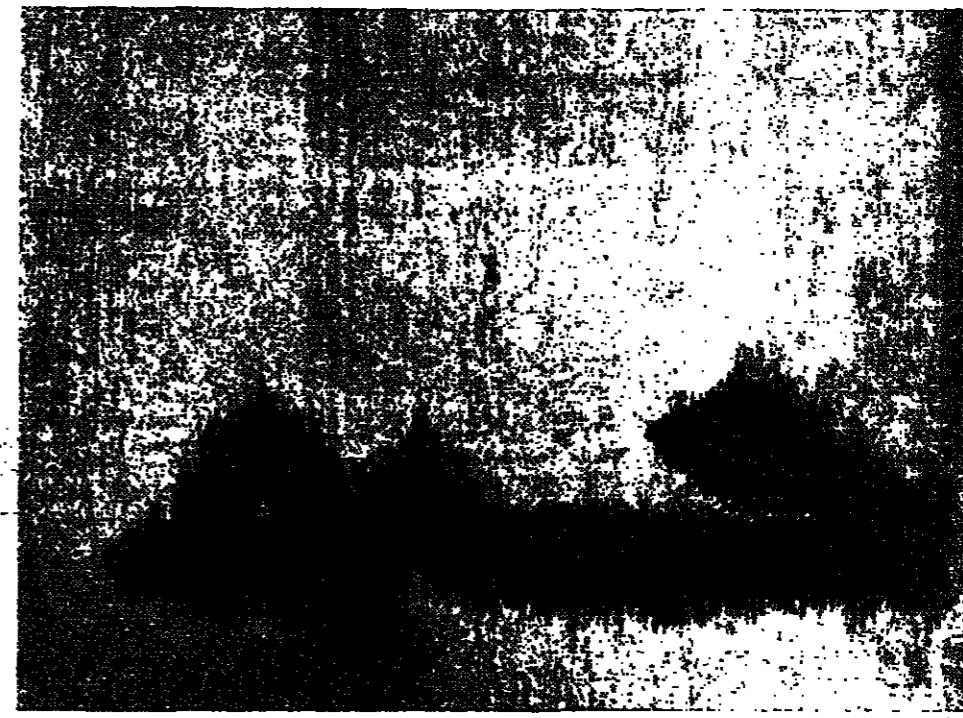
The landscapes, at first sight calligraphic renditions of letters, are indeed more than that. A new moon, an oasis, a twin tree trunk or a minaret or tower can be perceived if the imagination is let free.

Innovative and eliciting movement and a search for meanings.

Another group of paintings, depicting more conventional landscapes, uses different techniques to create beautiful sunsets, a towered island, a powerful forest, barren mountains or human settlement, complete with domed buildings and trees and providing a panoramic view in perspective.

If the letters carry religious symbolism (forming religious phrases), they also hold one in awe by their delicacy which almost assumes femininity especially when compared to the bold knife strokes of the background oil.

Turquoise, Anil Blue, pale mustard yellow or a stronger orange shade are the colours used for the



Part of a 'calligraphic landscape' by Wijdan

وزير الاشغال العامة والسكنى

وزارة المطارات الحكومية

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & HOUSING

GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION FOR TENDERS

CENTRAL TENDER NO. (163/93)

The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan invites interested experienced contractors to tender for the Rehabilitation and Upgrading of the King Abdullah Canal (KAC); the work comprises:

- Reshaping of the canal embankment
- Construction of new check structures and various annexed structures
- Repair of concrete canal lining
- Rehabilitation of existing structures
- Cleaning of canal and structures
- Miscellaneous other works as drains, fence, etc.
- Supply and repair radial gates and hoisting gear.

JVA intends to finance the construction out of the proceeds of a loan granted for rehabilitation of KAC by the European Investment Bank.

Tenders will be accepted from construction contractors from Jordan, the EC member countries and countries in which the EIB raises its funds, or a joint venture. Contractors from Jordan must be classified by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing in the first grade in the field of water and sewerage and/or structures.

Tender documents can be consulted as of July 30, 1994, at:

The Government Tenders Directorate

Ministry of Public Works and Housing

King Hussein Street

P.O.Box 1220 Amman Jordan.

Fax number: 606751

can be purchased at the same address against a non-refundable remittance of JD750.

Firms which bought the tender documents in connection with the 1st publication in October 1993 may collect a copy of the tender documentation free of charge.

Site visit is arranged to take place on Monday, Aug. 15, 1994.

Pretender conference will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 17, at the conference hall, 1st floor, Ministry of Water and Irrigation at 10:00 a.m.

Tender shall be submitted to the above address not later than 12:00 local time, on Saturday Sept. 17, 1994.

Eng. Basheer al Jagheer
Chairman, Central Tender Committee
Government Tenders Directorate

Hata plots comeback

TOKYO (R) — Former Japanese Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata is plotting a comeback, vowing to form a large and unified opposition party by September to crush what he calls the "irresponsible" Socialist-conservative government.

"There is this ground swell of demand from younger (opposition) lawmakers to form an enlarged party among the former ruling coalition," Mr. Hata told Reuters in an interview on Wednesday. "We must do this by September."

Mr. Hata was forced to resign last month under a combined threat from the Socialists and the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to pass a no-confidence motion.

Unlike most recent Japanese prime ministers, he was not brought down by a corruption scandal or failure to push through reforms. He fell solely because his government lacked a working majority.

"My government enjoyed a 60 per cent support rate in polls immediately before we resigned," Mr. Hata said. "What about the (Tomiochi) Murayama government? Barely 30 per cent."

"If there were an election now, we certainly would win."

He called Mr. Murayama's government the product of an "irresponsible" compromise between the Socialist left and the hardline right in the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

"The LDP just wanted to come back to power at any cost so they swallowed the Socialist Party in its entirety, whatever the contradictions," Mr. Hata said.

"There is this huge gap in logic in that government."

The scandal-ridden LDP was toppled by a reformist coalition last August, after 38 years of unbroken rule. That original coalition included the Socialists but they walked out in April, the day Mr. Hata was named prime minister.

Following Mr. Hata's resignation, the LDP swallowed its pride and did the unthinkable — forging an alliance with the Socialists, its bitter cold war adversaries.

Mr. Murayama, who became Japan's first Socialist prime minister since the immediate post-World War II period, was quick to return the favour. Last week he surprised the nation by scrapping his party's traditional opposition to the military and to the U.S.-Japan security treaty.

While Mr. Murayama was making headlines this dismissal of a basic tenet of his party, Mr. Hata quietly met other key opposition figures to plan the merger of seven opposition parties — all except the Communists.

The proposed new party would hold at least 180 seats in the lower house, the decisive chamber of parliament, Mr. Hata said.

Mr. Hata's party colleague and top strategist, Ichiro Ozawa, believes it could even overtake the LDP's current strength of 200 and emerge as the largest single bloc in parliament.

"Yes, I met with (ex-premiers) Mr. Kaifu and Mr. Hosokawa and we agreed to get this new party going," Mr. Hata said. "But the important thing is not who's leading the moves now or who would become party head; it's more of a grassroots thing."

Commentators said Mr. Hata remains the most viable opposition candidate as next premier.

In a recent commentary, the daily Asahi Shimbun said Morihiro Hosokawa had revealed his political immaturity by abandoning the premiership in April over a loans scandal.

Asahi said ex-LDP Premier Toshiki Kaifu was discredited because of his unsuccessful revolt against the LDP leadership. In the crucial parliamentary vote for premier on June 30, he ran on a ticket backed by Mr. Hata's coalition but failed to trigger a mass defection from the LDP.

Asked if he would make a comeback as prime minister, Mr. Hata replied by saying he was aware of public and media opinion. "I do feel responsible."

Meanwhile, a private advisory panel is to recommend cutting Japan's Self Defence Forces (SDF) over the next ten years, an official said Tuesday.

A 10-member panel on defence problems is finishing a report for Mr. Murayama.

Haiti to hold new elections; U.S. refuses to recognise

PONT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (R) — Haiti's military-backed government said Tuesday that it would begin new elections in November, but U.S. officials said a vote would not defuse the regime's standoff with the United States.

"This is the best way to end the crisis — let the people talk and find new leaders," a senior official of Haiti's military-backed regime said.

According to ABC News poll results released Tuesday, most Americans would not support an invasion of Haiti for the sole purpose of restoring democracy, though most would support such an action to stop the flow of Haitian boat people coming to the United States.

That number has dropped markedly over the past two weeks. Compared to early July, when well over 1,000 Haitian boat people were intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard each day, only 31 were picked up Monday.

According to the poll, conducted for a documentary to air Wednesday night, 39 per cent of Americans would support an invasion solely to restore democracy, while 56 per cent said they would support an action to end the flow

Bertrand Aristide, who was ousted in a 1991 coup.

"The wait for democracy must not endure any longer," Mr. Aristide said in a statement released in Washington. "A date certain for my return and for the departure of coup leaders must be set in order to sustain the hope of the nation that democracy will be restored."

An agenda for the election planning distributed by the council said the parties would discuss presidential, parliamentary and local votes, but Mr. Line Saintphar did not specifically mention a presidential contest during his meeting with reporters.

Mr. Line Saintphar said politicians loyal to Mr. Aristide had been invited to participate in the election planning but had not yet responded.

of refugees...

Also Wednesday, Mr. Aristide said that a "date certain" must be for his return to Haiti and for the departure of the de facto military leaders of the Caribbean nation.

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A Haitian boy peers around a tomb over human skulls and bones at the municipal cemetery in Port Au Prince. Many graves have been robbed of brass, jewelry and gold teeth since the U.N. embargo was put in effect against Haiti (AFP photo)

Bomb caused Panama crash-investigators

PANAMA CITY (R) —

Panamanian investigators said Tuesday a bomb caused the crash of a commuter plane last week that killed 21 people, most of them Jewish passengers, but that it was not clear who placed it in the plane.

"We have determined the cause of the crash. We have determined it was an explosive placed within the plane's cabin," Javier Chero, the assistant director of Panama's Judicial Police, told reporters.

"We are gathering evidence, but we can't speculate who is behind this right now," Mr. Chero said, speaking at a press conference with Mr. Chero.

The announcement followed a week of investigation conducted amid speculation

that the bomb was the work of either anti-Jewish Islamic groups or Colombian drug traffickers.

Jewish leaders in Panama have said they believe Islamic groups were responsible for the crash, which killed several prominent local Jewish businesspeople.

An Islamic group in Lebanon called Followers Of God has claimed responsibility for both the plane crash and the bombing last week of a Jewish community centre in Argentina. The death toll from the bombing in Argentina could reach 100, Jewish leaders there have said.

"We are gathering evidence, but we can't speculate who is behind this right now," Mr. Chero said, speaking at a press conference with Mr. Chero.

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Russian President Boris Yeltsin (right) and the President of Estonia Lennart Meri (left) exchange the signed documents in the Kremlin. The main items of the agreement are the rights of Russian military pensioners, which should be respected equally with those of Estonian citizens, and the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia by Aug. 31 (AFP photo)

Yeltsin: Estonia talks were toughest

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin said Wednesday that his five-hour talks on Russia's troop withdrawals with Estonian leader Lennart Meri were "very difficult" and the longest he had held with any president.

Mr. Yeltsin, speaking to reporters at Moscow Airport before leaving on a three-day trip to Siberia, was explaining the agreement he reached with Mr. Meri Tuesday to pull out Russian troops by the end of August.

"It was a difficult conversation, a very difficult conversation," Mr. Yeltsin said. "We spent five hours — I haven't devoted that much time to any other president."

The Russian president said he had threatened at one point to leave the troops in Estonia indefinitely unless

Mr. Meri agreed to link the pullout to the rights of Russian military pensioners in the Baltic state.

"Russia adopted a very tough position," Mr. Yeltsin said. But he hinted that he had come under heavy pressure from the West to agree on a withdrawal, saying he had received letters from President Bill Clinton and Chancellor Helmut Kohl urging a speedy pullout.

"Estonia succeeded in waking up the West," Mr. Yeltsin said.

Moscow has already withdrawn its troops from Lithuania and promised to pull out from Latvia by the end of August. This left the estimated 2,000 troops in Estonia as the major obstacle to an improvement in relations with Russia's Baltic neighbours, all of which won independence from Moscow in 1991.

Full details of the agreement on pensioners' rights were not available but Estonian officials in the capital Tallinn told journalists Mr. Meri had made no major concessions to Mr. Yeltsin.

They said no changes in Estonian law would be required and only people born before 1930 — now aged 64 or over — would be considered pensioners.

The estimated 9,000 retired Russian officers in Estonia have been at the centre of a wider disagreement over the status of the much larger Russian-speaking minority there, viewed by many Estonians as occupiers.

Under South Africa's new constitution, the country will be ruled by a coalition government for the next five years. The National Party has six cabinet posts, the Inkatha Freedom Party three and the ANC 18.

Asked whether there were any dissenting voices within the National Party on its role in the government, Mr. Schoeman said: "Not that I am aware of. We have never had a caucus meeting since the end of June. We will have one next week before the beginning of the (Aug. 1) parliamentary session."

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Dying 'dead' father fails to melt judge's heart

HONG KONG (R) — An illegal immigrant who died in prison after an early release from jail by claiming his father had died in China has won sympathy from a Hong Kong court system with a memory. Two years ago, Chun-Kwan won bail, at least from a jail term, claiming his father had died and he needed to come home to care for his ailing mother back in China. Wednesday, Mr. Law, serving a 21-month sentence for being an illegal immigrant and possessing a dangerous weapon, this time produced a medical certificate purporting to prove that his father was dying again. Justice Keith questioned the authenticity of Mr. Law's latest medical certificate, which remained unmoved and rejected the appeal. "If my expenses, anything to go by there, hardly ever an illegal immigrant in Hong Kong who does not have a dying person spouse in China," the lawyer said.

Briton finds Polish father after 48 years

WARSAW (AFP) — British Joseph Jones, 48, met his Polish father Jozef Jones for the first time here yesterday following up his mother's death-bed confession, a Polish News Agency (PAP) reported Tuesday. Joe and Jozef, aged 72, met at Warsaw Airport Friday to start a week's holiday together along with the Polish son's wife, daughter and translator. It said. Joseph, electrician, thought his parents were both English, his dying mother confided that his real father was the man she married again but a Pole she met in Italy at the end of World War II. With the help of the Cross he managed to down Jozef in Lomza, in northeastern Poland.

Bosnian Serbs cut key roads into Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian Serbs, testing international resolve over the latest Bosnia peace plan, closed key routes for civilian traffic into Sarajevo Wednesday and threatened to block U.N. convoys.

The Serbs said they would cut off water, gas and electricity supplied to the Bosnian capital and block United Nations convoys through their territory if Serb prisoners were not freed by Sunday, U.N. officials said.

United Nations officials reported Bosnian Serbs had closed vital roads to U.N. traffic crossing Sarajevo's airport Wednesday morning. The move was apparently aimed at increasing their leverage in peace negotiations.

Bosnian Serbs have stepped up pressure on the United Nations as major powers debate whether to take punitive measures to force Serb compliance with the peace plan, which the Serbs effectively rejected last week.

But diplomats said there were signs the Serbs were ready to cut a deal that could break the impasse over the peace plan drawn up by the five-nation "contact group" comprising the United States, Russia, Britain, France and Germany.

"At least some on the Serbs seem willing to climb down from an outright rejection of the contact group plan and make a deal," a diplomat in Sarajevo, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

Foreign minister let their hair down in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AFP) — Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono turned up sombrely. South Korean Sung-Joo played harmonica and Gareth of Australia sang a modified version of What a Wonderful World. Foreign ministers from ASEAN states and major international partners shed their dignified image, take a turn as entertainers at a light-hearted dinner last night. The now-traditional dinner, between no-days of talks on serious subjects such as economic integration and regional security, was a particular success this year, participants said. It was a brief moment of respite, however, when European Union warned its smoke machine Canadian Foreign Minister Andre Ouellet was wanted enveloping him in a cloud.

In Indonesia, give blood and get out of jail

JAKARTA (R) — Prisoners at an Indonesian jail are being offered the chance to win early release by donating organs or blood. Marsono, chief warden at Kedungjati jail at Semarang in central Java, told Antara News Agency that regular visits to the blood donor centre will knock up to six months off an inmate's sentence each visit. The agency added: "We are offering the chance to win early release by donating organs or blood." Marsono said the programme is voluntary, said the inmate was not available to pressurise him into giving up his life.

U.S. begins shake-up of Cambodian army

CHOM CHAO ARMY BASE, Cambodia (R) — The Cambodian military will have to go back to the classroom to learn how to use almost \$1 billion worth of U.S. military aid, a senior Western diplomat said Wednesday.

Road construction equipment including loaders, bulldozers, graders and field generators make up the biggest single foreign military donation to the resource-strapped Cambodian army since the holding of U.N.-organised elections last year.

"They (U.S. trainers) will be starting straight away in

the classroom and on equipment as soon as they can," said a senior Western diplomat Wednesday, of the \$975,000 package.

Apart from occasional visits by teams searching for servicemen thought missing in action, the deployment of the American army trainers is the first regular mission to Indochina by U.S. forces since 1975.

"They (the trainers) are trying to really ensure (the Cambodians) are in good shape to do good work — to build an esprit de corps," the diplomat said.

Arrest warrant issued for Berlusconi's brother

MILAN (R) — Milan magistrates have ordered the arrest of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's brother on suspicion of corruption, dealing a fresh blow to the battered government, judicial sources said Wednesday.

They said the warrant for Paolo Berlusconi was signed by a judge at the request of Milans' elite "Mafia pulite" (Clean Hands) pool of magistrates investigating allegations companies routinely paid kickbacks to the country's Finance Police.

The whereabouts of Paolo, who heads the Berlusconi family's property businesses, were not immediately known, but according to some radio reports he might be abroad.

Paolo's lawyers had said Tuesday, as rumours swirled of his imminent arrest, that he was ready to be questioned by magistrates after an audience at the family's main Fininvest holding company, who had already been detained, said he had authorised the payment of the kickbacks.

We must pass from social justice," he said Tuesday.

Opposition politicians and editors in several leading newspapers Wednesday accused Mr. Berlusconi of failing to distinguish between the interests of Fininvest and his brother.

The League had threatened to vote against the law in parliament and bring down the two-month-old government.

Mr. Berlusconi was already facing heavy criticism for hosting a weekend meeting between political associates and businessmen from Fininvest as Milan's magistrates were preparing to pounce.

"Everything is fine," said Northern League leader Umberto Bossi after a late night meeting Tuesday with Mr. Berlusconi and other coalition leaders.

Judicial sources said the businessman was accused of over payments totalling 330 million lire (\$210,000) to Financial Police to turn a blind eye during routine checks at three Fininvest



Zairean volunteers carry away the corpse of a woman who died from cholera in a refugee camp to the north of Goma (AFP)

U.N. asks U.S. to bury piles of Rwandan corpses

GOMA, Zaire (R) — The U.N. has asked the U.S. soldiers to make the grisly task of burying the bodies of Rwandans stacking up in the refugee camps of eastern Zaire one of the first acts of their mercy mission.

Health workers, meanwhile, reported first signs of malnutrition among the hundreds of thousands of Rwandans, especially children, in the teeming disease-plagued camps.

"The burial of bodies has become a major concern... we're talking of around 1,800 deaths a day," U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman Ray Wilkinson told reporters.

Days ago Mr. Wilkinson said the only thing the aid operation was carrying out efficiently was the burial of corpses.

Now people are dying faster than they can be picked up while relief groups still struggle to get food and water to the refugees.

The United Nations estimates that 16,000 people have died a week into a cholera epidemic ravaging the 1.2 million refugees and local population around the Zaire town Goma. Dysentery, malaria and sheer exhaustion are responsible for many deaths.

Mr. Wilkinson said that the U.N. had asked the U.S. State Department and General Jack Nix, head of the American military operation now under way to help in the crisis, to provide teams to carry out burials in six sites around Goma.

French soldiers from "Operation Turquoise" are having to use explosives to blast holes into the black volcanic rock which surrounds Goma to dig new mass graves.

The Americans are being asked to bring up to 30 trucks that would have a capacity to carry 50 bodies at a time. Mr. Wilkinson said the U.N. needed the equipment within 48 hours.

The U.N. said it had received permission from Zairean authorities to begin

burning the corpses but these plans were put off due to fears of riots in the camps.

Cremation is against Rwandan traditional religion, which believes spirits inhabit the world around the burial place.

The McJecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders-MSF) group said it had noticed the first signs of starvation amongst children who arrived healthy two weeks ago.

MSF spokeswoman Anne-Marie Huby said there were 2,188 new cholera cases Tuesday and that the epidemic was still getting worse. MSF is dealing with the crisis almost single-handed.

In one ray of hope, however, she said that cholera deaths were going down in treatment centres where sufferers were being given intravenous fluids and oral rehydration salts.

But she added: "We are seeing the first signs of malnutrition, especially amongst children, and this will make the recovery of people a lot more complicated."

Most important in the fight against cholera is the provision of clean water. American and German military planes have been flying in water purification plants.

Mr. Wilkinson said that 400,000 litres (88,000 gallons) of clean water were now being provided. The refugees need a bare minimum of five million litres (one million gallons), although the U.N. says they should get 30 million (6.6 million gallons) in the right conditions.

U.N. officials said that within a week flights and truck convoys should be able to bring in enough food to the remote part of Zaire to provide the refugees with all they need.

But they admitted little was being done so far to help with the repatriation of the refugees even though UNHCR said last Friday it was actively encouraging them to return home.

The U.N. says the perpetrators of the massacres should be brought to justice but many crossed into Zaire earlier this month from a French-controlled "safe haven" in the southwest of Rwanda.

Zairean authorities have given the Hutu leaders asylum so far, along with about 20,000 ex-soldiers, but they have prevented them from speaking to the press in a signal that they will not tolerate them playing politics in exile.

U.N. officials, preparing for the arrival Thursday in Rwanda of American troops, hope the U.S. presence will be a magnet to bring refugees home and encourage more nations to put forces on the ground in Rwanda.



A young Rwandan refugee child suffering from cholera, holds out a mug for some water in a refugee camp to the north of Goma (AFP photo)

French voters prefer Balladur for president

PARIS (AFP) — Gaullist Prime Minister Edouard Balladur is the preferred candidate of the French for presidential elections in May 1995 with 54 per cent support, an opinion poll said Wednesday.

The poll, carried out by the IFOP institute for the weekly Express, said the Socialist secretary general expressed his opinion, not in passing but in a detailed letter, then it will be worth talking about," Mr. Vogel said. "We won't necessarily be won over but we will consider such a proposal seriously," he added.

Dr. Ghalib's proposal has put Germany in a difficult situation now the German constitutional court has authorised German army missions abroad.

"When the United Nations secretary general expressed his opinion, not in passing but in a detailed letter, then it will be worth talking about," Mr. Vogel said. "We won't necessarily be won over but we will consider such a proposal seriously," he added.

According to Serb sources, the Bosnian Serb parliament was scheduled to meet Wednesday in their stron-

per cent preferred Mr. Balladur and 31 per cent the latter.

In a Delors-Chirac faceoff, the Socialist would win with 52 per cent (48 per cent for Chirac, whereas Mr. Balladur (57 per cent) would beat Delors (43 per cent).

Another opinion poll meanwhile said President Francois Mitterrand put on five points in his popularity to 52 per cent since June, leveling off with Mr. Balladur who stayed at 52 per cent.

The poll by the BVA institute for the magazine Paris-Match was carried out between July 15 and 19.

However, the poll said a big majority on 62 per cent were still unhappy with the way the country was being governed.

French premier to discuss European force in Africa

PARIS (R) — Prime Minister Edouard Balladur leaves Wednesday for visits to France's main African allies during which the possible creation of a full-time European Force for interventions in Rwanda-like crises will be discussed.

"France will preside in the European Union from January onwards and I think we should try to set up a permanent (European) force to play this kind of (military-humanitarian) role," he told Radio France International.

"Europe must have the devaluation has been positive. Certain sectors have begun exporting again and governments have managed to keep their wage bills down," a source close to the prime minister said.

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The policy states that Paris will help African countries that help themselves by good management. Ties will be based on economic realism rather than personal connections from now on, officials said Tuesday.

Asked what would happen if the U.N. was unable to form a reinforcement unit, Mr. Balladur said: "I cannot believe that the international community is unable to send a few thousand men to replace the French troops after we have been asking them to

do so for weeks."

Mr. Balladur's visit comes seven months after a 50 per cent devaluation of the CFA franc, the currency that links 14 former African colonies with France.

"The first effects of the devaluation have been positive. Certain sectors have begun exporting again and governments have managed to keep their wage bills down," a source close to the prime minister said.

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Mr. Balladur, accompanied by Economy Minister Edmond Alphandery and Economic Cooperation Minister Michel Rousset, will preface a doctrine of "demanding solidarity."

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200 feared killed in Burundi clashes — radio

NAIROBI (R) — Nearly 200 people have been killed in ethnic clashes in Burundi over the last few days, a Delors-Chirac faceoff.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in Nairobi Tuesday, said the clashes took place in northwestern Mbuye district. Two camps for the displaced have been set up.

The radio said Mbuye was now completely deserted due to the clashes between the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes.

Burundi has the same ethnic make-up as Rwanda and has seen intermittent clashes between Hutus and Tutsis since its first Hutu president, Melchior Ndaye, was murdered by rebels in October.

But it has been spared the bloodletting which raged in its central African neighbour after both countries' presidents were killed in a rocket attack on their plane on April 6.

The only people we met were displaced people who had remained in their camps," the reporter added.

"Virtually nobody was left on hills such as Bagaya. We tried to talk to them, but they were frightened."

On Tuesday the radio reported that soldiers had killed 14 people Sunday in Rutegama district, another part of the troubled north-western province.

Burundi's military is dominated by Tutsis who, although only 10 per cent of the population, have refused to share power with the Hutus for generations.

Striking oil unions spurn Nigeria talks

LAGOS (Agencies) — Nigeria's striking oil unions said they would stay away from negotiations set for Wednesday to end the action and the strike would go on.

"We can't go because we have to first hold our National Executive Council meeting," Bola Owodunni, president of the white collar oil workers union PENGAS-SAN, told Reuters.

The French leader, who will visit close allies Senegal, Ivory Coast and Gabon on a four-day tour, said the result of French troop intervention in Rwanda was a positive one.

He said, though, that the troops would be pulled out as planned by Aug. 22 when they are to be replaced by United Nations forces.

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Mr. Balladur, widely believed to have won last year's annulled presidential election, is due to appear in court in the inland capital Abuja Thursday.

"The outcome of the court proceedings will also determine our next line of action."

Meanwhile U.S. civil rights leader Jesse Jackson was to travel to Lagos to deliver a letter to Nigeria's military leaders from President Bill

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People's trust

IT HAS become safe to conclude that the majority of the Jordanian people were relieved to witness the signing of the Washington Declaration Monday, by His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. There is wide recognition of the fact that the ending of the state of belligerency between Jordan and Israel would hasten progress on other peace-making fronts that in turn would lead to progress and development for the whole region.

The people of the region have become tired of endless wars and conflicts. Many generations have known nothing but a perpetual state of war throughout their lives.

As long as the envisaged peace will be anchored on the full implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, there can be no room for suspicion.

We will be able now to see Jordan's territorial rights recognised and assured. There can be no better blessing for Jordanians than to have this sense of security and stability introduced to their lives. Now people know where they stand and know what to expect from the future. With this sense of stability more and more people would know how to plan their lives and rear their children. Above all peoples and countries now understand once and for all that Jordan is Jordan and Palestine is Palestine. Gone are the days when some Israeli extremists would have the world think that the solution of the Palestine question should be resolved at the expense of Jordan and the Jordanian people. The Washington Declaration must have served notice on all the international community including the Likud Party in Israel that the resolution of the Palestinian conflict must be at the expense of no party other than Israel itself. That means that Israel will have to make the necessary territorial compromises in order to accommodate the Palestinian yearnings for a homeland of their own. The sooner and the faster can the Palestinian-Israeli peace talks advance, the better it would be to all the parties.

Jordan will always pin hopes on the ability of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to strike an equitable bargain for its people with Israel in due course. The successes attained at the Jordanian front can only lend support to this Palestinian struggle for recognition as people entitled to their own homeland. The Jordanian people and leadership will continue to lend support to their Palestinian brethren until they regain their full rights.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT IS no secret to say that at least 60 per cent of the Palestinian people are refugees or displaced persons of some kind as a result of massacre carried out by Zionists against the Palestinian people since 1948, said a columnist in Al Ra'i daily Wednesday. For the past four decades, Israel has been denying refugees the right to return to their homeland, and for the past three years of Arab-Israeli negotiations, Israeli leaders have ignored this right and resisted the implementation of U.N. Resolution 194 which calls for the refugees' return or compensation, said Ibrahim Al Absi. The refugees are referred to by Israel as a mere group of people who are in need for some kind of rehabilitation but as people with rights that should be restored and a homeland to which they ought to be repatriated, said the writer. He said the Arab countries, led by the Arab League, should demand that the refugees question be discussed in urgent at all bilateral and multilateral phases of the peace process and that the refugees be repatriated or compensated so that peace can be just and lasting.

NOW THAT a new chapter in Arab-Israeli relations had been opened certain domestic affairs should be addressed to enable the Jordanian people confront the challenges of the present and the future, said Taher Adwan, a columnist in Al Dastour. We look forward to reforms in public administration, real fight against corruption and steering democracy towards the right track to serve solely and ensure continued national unity, said the writer. Democracy and peace are bound to fail if they are not coupled with social justice because, the writer said, there can be no democracy with poverty and no peace with injustice. The majority of people in Jordan talk about peace with optimism and hope that it would bring with it the long-awaited prosperity and reassurance about the future, he added. The writer said that the government has responsibility towards the middle class which, he said, has been adversely affected since the start of the peace process because the requirements of people in our region hinge on the concept of free market economy which has been making the rich richer and the poor poorer.

The View from Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdonbeh

Reflections on the virtues of the Washington Declaration

THIS is a time of hope and rejoice. What happened on Monday (July 25) at the White House is no ordinary event. His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan, U.S. President Bill Clinton, and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have, I believe, laid a crucial cornerstone in the edifice of the bright future which we are all anxiously anticipating: a cornerstone firmer and more durable than any that has so far been laid, and a future whose auspicious signs are already beginning to issue forth. At last the far seems near, the abnormal normal, and the impossible possible.

Monday's historic meeting is significant in terms of both what it promises to fulfill and what it in itself signifies. The Washington Declaration signed by three leaders in the White House garden not only identifies in the most precise language the matters which Jordan and Israel need to address in order to resolve their conflict, but also paves the way for the establishment of a very fruitful bilateral relationship. Hostilities are going to cease, relations are going to be normalised, and joint projects of mutual benefit to the peoples of the two countries and the whole region are to be carried out. Indeed, a great deal of good seems to be in store for us, and much is expected to be achieved and gained.

But much has already been achieved and gained, we should underscore. Three things I wish to highlight in particular here, on the basis of the Washington Declaration and the elegant ceremony during which it was ratified.

1. The symbolism of what took place, of what we all saw and heard, on Monday in Washington must not pass without some due recognition. The warm handshakes, the emotional facial gestures, the heartfelt sentiments, the friendly atmosphere, and the eloquent but sober and mature rhetoric (which all struck me as utterly sincere) are indicative of a reality that has actually materialised. Conflicts among nations are not just political, historical, geographic, economic, and sociological. The psychological dimension is quintessential, perhaps all-essential. Frictions, tensions, acts of violence, and war stem largely from feelings of dissatisfaction, discontent, injustice, suspicion, bitterness, and hatred. His Majesty and the Israeli prime minister have been around long enough, virtually since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli trauma, to realise that a pursuit of peace which is not based on a genuine desire for peace will certainly fail. We felt such desire on Monday in the words, the acts, and the rituals. What we watched through TV on that historic day (whose roots extend all the way back to Madrid) was not simply the collapse of psychological barriers; rather, it was the emergence of a new mode of thinking, a new temperament, a new consciousness, and a new psyche. The Jordanian-Israeli meeting on the said day, hosted and sponsored by a fully

active American partner, epitomised the spirit which should have prevailed a long time ago. Had such spirit been prevalent, we would have averted so many disasters. Well, better late than never. Unquestionably, this new mode, temperament, consciousness, or psyche is the most precious fruit that the peace process has yielded. Ultimately, it is this fruit that really counts. Everything else is subordinate.

2. The state of war between Jordan and Israel is officially over. This is good news indeed. The King, in saying what he has said in this respect, has left no room whatsoever for any guessing, hesitation, misunderstanding, or ambiguity about the matter. One thing extremely striking about His Majesty's brief but very eloquent impromptu speech, following the signing ceremony, is its remarkable straightforwardness.

"The man in the street, who has waited long and suffered long, is happy with the Washington Declaration and the Palestinian self-rule agreement as a start. It is our job to bring the peace process to a successful finish and to bring him a happiness which is long due."

There was no double talk, no beating around the bush, no elusiveness. The King dotted the i's when he pointed out that what was agreed upon was not an end to "the state of belligerency" but to "the state of war." We have been waiting for such an assertion for a long time. War is ugly, is monstrous, and is shameful. No one knows this better than the peoples of the Middle East region who for the greater part of the present century have found themselves engaged in one war after another. What a waste, what a pity, what a shame! When we renounce war, we are asserting ourselves as civilised human beings; such renunciation is our admission ticket to the fellowship of the human race. Is what is happening in Bosnia human? Is what is happening in

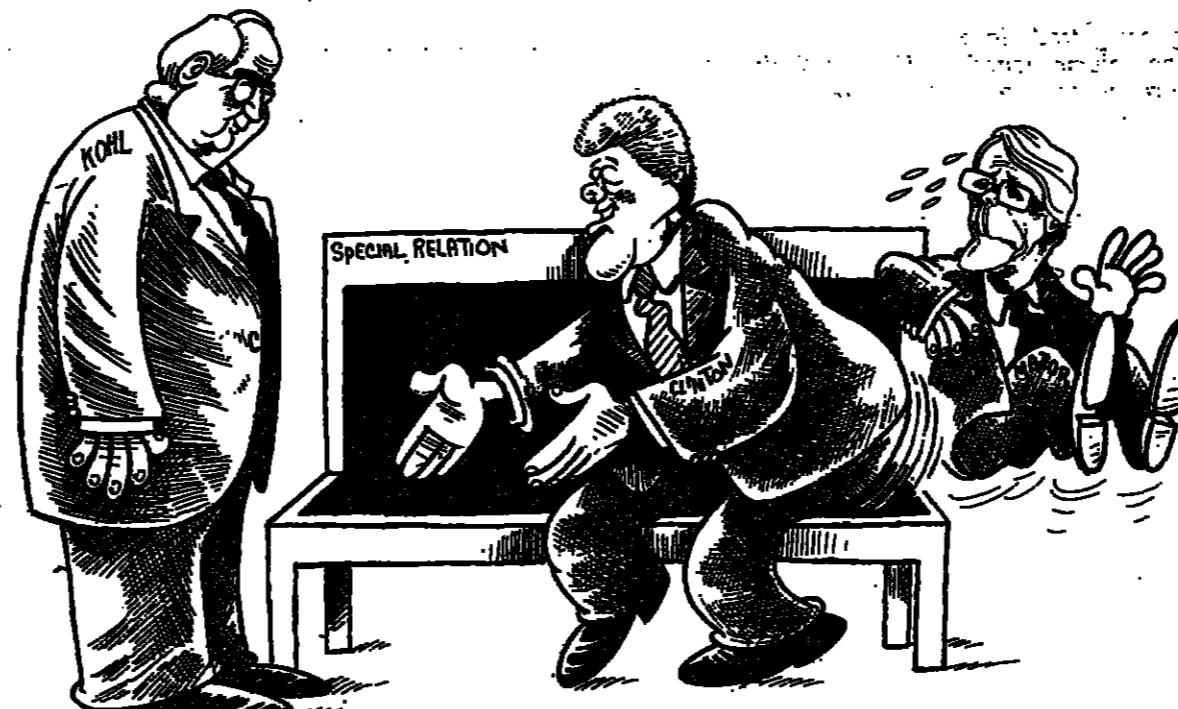
Rwanda human? I, like thousands of my generation, cannot get over the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, even though everything that happened so quickly. I was eleven years old then. Twenty-seven years have passed then and I, like many in my generation, have not yet recovered from its scars. I saw my whole village levelled to the ground in front of my own eyes, at the hands of Israeli soldiers. I saw mothers abandon their children and run for their lives. I saw wounded people calling for help and no one dared to help them, I saw corpses swelling five times their normal size and no one bothering to give them a decent burial. 1967 was nowhere near Bosnia or Rwanda, but it was ugly. Imagine the feeling of helplessness, hopelessness, insecurity, and utter humiliation. And yet I, like the majority in my generation, am no proponent of vengeance or acts of violence of any sort. We condemn war, and we feel very heartened that Israeli Prime Minister Rabin has echoed the King's sentiments when he (Rabin), affirmed that the Middle Eastern children and grandchildren will know no more wars." We hope he means this, and we pray there will be no more suffering and no more bloodshed.

3. The Washington Declaration has given a push to the overall Middle Eastern peace process. When the PLO struck the Oslo deal, I was half-joyed. I say "half" not because (like some) I was against reaching an agreement with Israel directly, but because a) the deal was negotiated behind the backs of the official Palestinian negotiating team and; more importantly, b) because one hand cannot clap, as we say in Arabic.

Now that Jordan has joined the march for peace, the momentum is almost in full swing. Jordan may be a small country, demographically; but it is fundamental, if peace is to prevail: because of its vital geographic location, its commonsense policies, its realistic outlook, and its profound insight and vision. Now that it has committed itself to the process of peace, Jordan shall inevitably foster and augment the position of its Palestinian brothers; due to its credibility, it shall also encourage the Syrians and the Lebanese, whose presence at the negotiating table is a must, to follow suit. Suffice it to say that the declaration begins by emphasising "the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbours." This is what the Palestinians have underlined in the Gaza-Jericho first and what the Syrians and Lebanese always called for. Let's all act now and together.

The man in the street, who has waited long and suffered long, is happy with the Washington Declaration and the Palestinian self-rule agreement as a start. It is our job to bring the peace process to a successful finish and to bring him a happiness which is long due.

M. KAHLI



Communists open Laos to the world

By Peter Eng
The Associated Press

VIENTIANE, Laos — Before Laos began edging out of isolation, the quiet streets of Vientiane were a vista of pastel villas from French colonial days and billboards exhorting everyone to serve the Communist motherland.

Today, visitors are greeted at the airport by a billboard offering Tiger beer from Singapore and another that warns: "AIDS is a worldwide problem."

As cars and motorcycles fill the wide, leafy boulevards, Vientiane's first traffic jam may not be far off. Nightclubs, discos and karaoke bars have sprouted around town, many owned by foreign investors. Gaudy Thai-owned hotels are favoured eating and entertainment spots for the newly rich.

Officials are pursuing "renovation" policies begun in 1986 to replace ideology with economic development. The pace of change has quickened since the foreign investment law was further liberalised in March. But the government is guiding change carefully to avoid an abrupt impact.

Laos has significantly improved relations with such former enemies as China, the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, including

refugee agency said. One member of the national assembly elected in 1992 is a refugee who came back from France. A man who spent 13 years in a Communist "re-education camp" now holds a senior government post.

According to official figures, Laos had 102,700 foreign tourists in 1993, six times more than in 1990. To minimise the impact on Lao culture and traditions, the government permits only prepaid, organised tours and discourages backpackers.

The strongest indication that Laos is committed to a different future may be its cooperation with capitalist neighbours.

Leaders of Laos, Thailand and Australia joined in dedicating an Australian-built bridge over the Mekong River between Vientiane and northeast Thailand that opened a path for increased trade, investment and other contacts.

Already, Lao officials have expressed interest in a second bridge across the Mekong Border. Investors dream of a river lined with resorts, restaurants and condominiums.

To celebrate the bridge opening, singers from five nations performed a concert in Vientiane attended by more than 20,000 Laotians. It was the biggest

event of Communist rule and became the lead story in the inaugural issue of the Vientiane Times, the first English-language newspaper.

The concert was carried live on the inaugural broadcast of a new television station, for which a Thai-owned company is producing programmes in a joint venture with the government. The station carries Western and Asian programmes never before seen by Laotians, but all programming must be approved by the Information and Culture Ministry.

Journalists say they now may address a wider range of subjects and be more critical in examining social issues. They are not allowed to criticise the government, as in Communist Vietnam next door. But "we are on the road," one said. Three Laotian reporters were permitted to take a training course in Thailand taught by two Americans.

Foreign journalists find the atmosphere in Laos more relaxed. One example: A few foreigners were allowed into remote areas of three southern provinces for the first time in years. Two foreign ministry officials who went along not only did not interfere, but returned to Vientiane two days before the trip ended.

With the help of a new generation of western-educated younger ministers appointed two years ago, the crown prince appeared determined to make Laos' voice heard and instill a new sense of purpose in the country that gained full independence from Britain only in 1974.

"These policies have helped Laos identify more closely with their state. There is a blooming of patriotism," one diplomat said.

Qatar adopts distinctive foreign policies

By Yousef Azmeh
Reuter

DOHA — The small Gulf state of Qatar has emerged from under the shadow of giant neighbour Saudi Arabia to take increasingly independent foreign policies that are making people sit up.

"It is doing wonders for national pride at home and forcing foreign governments to take notice of Qatar," one Western diplomat said of foreign policy decisions over the past two years that have set Qatar apart from Gulf allies.

Qatars are particularly delighted this month by what they see as their most spectacular foreign policy success.

They were alone among the six states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to support Yemen's northern President Ali Abdullah Saleh in two months of war against secessionists who tried in vain to set up a breakaway southern Yemeni state.

The fall of Aden to Mr. Saleh's forces this month and the collapse of the breakaway state vindicated their claim that the young nation had a more astute diplomacy than powerful and long-established neighbours.

They are delighted that this was largely in line with the policy of the United States, that refused to be dragged into the Yemeni quagmire despite Saudi urgings, the diplomat said.

They also say they alone have the goodwill in Sanaa

that may help ease future ties with the Saudi-dominated GCC, which also groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

However Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabir Al-Thani made clear at a news conference on Monday that no one had asked Qatar to play such a role.

"It was courageous. It is not easy to go against your big neighbours but our government took a decision on principle and was not afraid to advertise it," one Qatari intellectual said.

Foreign diplomats said Qatar had taken a risk and was fortunate matters turned out as they did.

The small oil-producing country of no more than 150,000 native Qataris that protrudes into the Gulf from the Saudi mainland may, however, be playing with fire, they added.

"They have seriously crossed the Saudis. Yemen is only the latest example. You never know how Riyadh might react if this provocation continues," one Western diplomat said.

Sheikh Hamad denied that Qatar's maverick policies were aimed against Saudi Arabia, with whom Qatar has an unresolved border problem that led to violence.

"Our policy is based on honesty... principles... we are not doing it to offend anyone," he said.

But the diplomats said that since the 1992 clash along the Saudi-Qatar border, Doha's policies were largely at odds with Saudi Arabia's.

Qatar appeared to have gone out of its way to befriended both Iran and Iraq, neighbouring states that Riyadh considers a threat to Saudi Security and to the stability of the Gulf oil region. These policies have also annoyed the United States.

It has expressed reservations about the results of many GCC meetings, effectively casting doubt about the validity of decisions in an organisation where unanimity is the rule.

It has made approaches to Israel at a time when its Gulf partners have remained officially aloof from the Jewish state, awaiting the outcome of peace negotiations with its immediate Arab neighbours.

They also say they are not convinced there is no link between Qatar's foreign policy and what Doha sees are Riyadh's reluctance to implement a deal to demarcate the border by the end of 1993 or to carry out promises of resolving a separate Bahrain-Qatar border row.

But they say there may be other reasons.

They said the emir, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani, had gradually handed over the day-to-day running of the state to his eldest son, Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani.

With the help of a new generation of western-educated younger ministers appointed two years ago, the crown prince appeared determined to make Qatar's voice heard and instill a new sense of purpose in the country that gained full independence from Britain only in 1974.

"These policies have helped Qatar identify more closely with their state. There is a blooming of patriotism," one diplomat said.

Weekender

July 28, 1994 A

Published Every Thursday

The broken promised land

The Politics Of Dispossession: The Struggle For Palestinian Self-Determination, 1988-1994

By Edward Said (Chatto And Windus £20)

The most remarkable feature of the Arab-Israeli conflict has been not the great military and political success of the state of Israel or the hardship and misery imposed on the Palestinian people, but the West's heaping of praise and reward on the oppressors, and blame and penalty on the victims — a stark contrast to South Africa, Europe has for some time been more even-handed; not so the United States.

The struggle for Palestine is often thought to be one between two rights: both Arabs and Jews have a right to the land. But, initially at least, that was far from true. As late as 1917, Palestine was 90 per cent Arab. There had long been a small Jewish presence there, but by no stretch of imagination did the Jews have a secular right to Palestine. Hence, God had to be invoked.

The difficulty was that religious Jews did not believe in political Zionism — which means the turning of Arab land into Jewish, and the substitution of Jews for Arabs — and political Zionists did not believe in God. Virtually all leading Zionists had been non-believers. The founder of political Zionism, Theodor Herzl, was so little guided by the Old Testament that he would have been happy to settle for Uganda as the Jewish state.

As George Steiner put it: "Zionism was created by Jewish nationalists who drew their inspiration from Bismarck and followed a Prussian model." Yet somehow the idea got home that God had given Palestine to the Jews who, therefore, had a natural right to the land. So, as Edward Said writes in this impressive collection of finely textured essays, *The Politics Of Dispossession*, a national movement whose provenance and ideas were European took a land away from a non-European people settled there for centuries.

Unfortunately, that process was begun by the British. By the Balfour Declaration of 1917, wrote Arthur Koestler, "one country solemnly promised to another the country of a third." That promise was not only freakish, as Koestler said, it was politically frivolous. Having been Chief Secretary of Ireland, Balfour well knew the results of sectarian bitterness and land disputes, yet he recklessly foisted them on to Palestine with the disastrous consequences that we know. In 1948, by a strikingly thorough policy of ethnic and geographical cleansing, the Israelis drove out five-sixths of the Palestinian population and so comprehensively destroyed 400 out of 500 Palestinian villages that no trace of them now remains.

Edward Said is chiefly concerned, however, with the last 25 years when the Palestinians have had to contend not with British frivolity but with American malevolence. He himself was born in Jerusalem, and when his family was "dispossessed and displaced in 1948" he finished his education in the United States, where he is now Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia. In 1967 he became actively involved in Palestinian affairs; since then in addition to writing a number of notable books he has been the most cogent and eloquent defender of the Palestinians and their right to self-determination.

That has been no easy task. There is no decent argument against Palestinian self-determination, as the American public evidently recognises. But the Palestinians are "the victims of a victim" who in America is unusually powerful, and the views of the public count: for little against the pro-Israeli lobby, to which the Senate is unfailingly obedient. Hence the Palestinian case has been customarily vilified or ignored, and American aid showered upon Israel. (that relatively well-off country gets nearly half the total American foreign aid budget. Per capita, Israel gets 700 times as much as sub-Saharan Africa). With few exceptions American governing circles have been humiliatingly subservient to the Israelis.

The U.S. media are little better. The owner of the once-liberal Atlantic Monthly and U.S. News and World Report was only uncommonly candid in direct-

ing: "I will not have a word of criticism of Israel in any of my publications". Columnists such as AM Rosenthal and William Safire are mere Zionist propagandists. Others such as Anthony Lewis, William Pfaff and Stephen Rosenfeld are brave and fair, but they are a small minority.

Israel, therefore, can do much as it likes, and the unconsulted American tax-payer foots the bill. The internationally recognised frontiers of Israel leave the Palestinians just 23 per cent of Palestine — hardly an excessive proportion for the indigenous inhabitants. Yet, by building a mass of illegal settlements, Israel has stolen some 40 per cent of that remnant. In the Gaza Strip 5,000 Israeli settlers and the Israeli army still occupy more than half as much land as 800,000 Palestinians.

The United States has underwritten such activities as well as the accompanying Israeli violence. It has effectively paid for the bullets which have enforced a brutal occupation — live ammunition has routinely been fired at children throwing stones, hundreds of whom had been killed and wounded. Torture has been prevalent, yet American hypocrisy is easily equal to treating the Palestinians as the offenders instead of as victims who deserve reparations.

As the settlements still grow apace, Said is gloomy about the future. He has no time for Yasser Arafat. And he believes the incompetently negotiated Oslo Peace Accord to be "an instrument of Palestinian surrender." This fine book shows him to be an angry man; it also shows that he has much to be angry about — The Observer.

Ian Gilmour

Wheels of war

Arms Industry Limited

Edited by Herbert Wulf

Oxford University Press For SIPRI, England 1993, £37.50

Arms And The State: Patterns of military production and trade

By Keith Klause

Cambridge University Press, England 1992, £40

Although neither of these books is devoted exclusively to the Middle East, their subject and findings are of direct relevance to a region characterised by armed conflict, high levels of militarisation and an ever burgeoning trade in arms.

The volume edited by Herbert Wulf is the more applied of the two, as it describes and analyses the industrial activities of the major global arms producers. A dozen lesser producers, including a couple of Middle Eastern states, are assessed by Ian Anthony, who notes the expensive failures of past experience but argues, at the same time, that there is scope for inter-state cooperation due to the nature and proliferation of modern military and industrial technology. Nonetheless, only those countries with an established level of political and economic development are likely to make progress in indigenous arms production. Anthony anticipates slow growth in the overall volume of these lesser producers, not least because they lack sufficient local capital and markets to embark on major projects, and observes that most arms industries are currently undergoing restructuring and simultaneous manpower reductions. Once they have a military industrial capability, he concludes, few countries are likely to give it up.

This conclusion is borne out by Gulay Gunluk-Senesen, whose contribution describes the rapid rise in Turkish armament programmes since the Gulf war, due to the modernisation of obsolete equipment, a change in NATO policy, no-strings-attached Russian supplies, and the ongoing conflict with the PKK. The decision to give defence spending priority over welfare and to maintain investment in local arms industries, despite heavy technological dependence on Western suppliers, is probably indicative of likely behaviour elsewhere in the Balkans and the Middle East.

Krause takes an opposite approach, developing a

historical approach towards arms production and trade and its implications for international relations and the global "pecking order". He argues that there are three main tiers of arms producing states in terms of technological and industrial capability, and that the barriers to movement between them by individual states remain high. This is very much because the "economic endowments" of states remain important as the prime determinant in the global military hierarchy. The attempt by weak states to develop their indigenous capabilities in military technology and production — whether in order to fortify themselves against the strong or dominate their local regions — has met limited success and has not enabled them to compete effectively in international markets, whether for commercial profit or strategic influence.

In the view of Krause, the rapid advance of technology and the massive rise in cost threaten to eclipse any progress the "third tier" makes, and even undermines the position of the "second tier" states of Western Europe. Yet conversely, the past pattern of transfer of military technology from the "first tier" — the U.S. and USSR — to their industrial allies has weakened the manipulative ability of the superpowers. The "third tier" will remain marginal as the arms production market resists diffusion and stays concentrated — arms producers of the Middle East take note — but 19th century history suggests that key global suppliers will continue to have an interest in "internationalising" production and cooperating with certain developing countries — Middle East International.

Maria Holt

BOOK REVIEWS

forces illustrates, the problem of female victimisation is "universal". Palestinian society, suggests the author, must bear some of the blame since it "sees the woman as powerless, dominated by her sexuality, which must be controlled and protected by the powerful and mentally, physically and socially superior man. The price of infringement of the norms is high. The honour and the good name of her family..." Given the enormity of opposition, it is perhaps surprising that the Palestinian woman continues to strive against the restrictions of her society and the deadening repression of the occupation. From the ceramic art of Vera Tamari and the short stories of Hanan Ashrawi to the tax revolt at Beit Sahur and the "heroic motherhood" of women such as Umm Muhammad, whose two sons were expelled from their homeland, the determination of the Palestinian woman continues to provide an inspiring example. This book is both a useful document and a tribute to her courage, ingenuity and optimism — Middle East International.

Yezid Sayigh

An unrealistic prognosis

False Inheritance: Israel In Palestine And The Search For A Solution

By Michael Rice

Kegan Paul International, London 1994, £19.95 As well as writing extensively on the archaeology of the Arabian peninsula, Michael Rice has also worked as an adviser to a number of governments in the region, including those of Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia. Rice's background in the Gulf states might help explain the tendency of this book to go out of its way to praise the policies of the Gulf states towards the Arab-Israeli conflict, and its manifest failure to criticise the Kuwaitis for their treatment of the Palestinians in the aftermath of the Gulf War.

The whole purpose of the book is to prove that there is no moral or legal justification for the "implantation of a Jewish population, predominantly European in its origins, in the land of Palestine". Only by accepting the de-Zionisation of Israel and the creation of a cantonal or federal structure in which Israel, Palestine and Jordan are linked, argues Rice, can peace be given even the modest chance of being accomplished.

Although the book is articulately written it is just too polemical to be taken seriously. Far better deconstructions of Zionism have been written than this one, notably Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi's *Original Sins*. The book is filled with bold and sweeping generalisations about Jewish and Middle Eastern history, but the author largely fails to inform the reader of his sources. What footnotes there are tend to refer to secondary sources, many of which have a dubious scholarly value. The author weakens his case further by making wholly unacceptable and unnecessary comparisons between Israel and Nazi Germany. For example, he writes that "young Israelis now beat elderly Arabs and children as readily as young stormtroopers beat elderly Jews and drove Jewish children into concentration camps". However oppressive the Israelis are, they are not about to inflict a Final Solution on the Palestinian people.

Rice's prognosis in the final chapter is hopelessly misinformed and unrealistic. After conveniently dismissing the recent influx of Soviet Jews into Israel, he claims that Jews of Oriental descent ("who did not want to come to Israel in the first place") are likely to become the majority in Israel and could find a partnership with their Palestinian brethren against the white European Jews who have oppressed them both. This, Rice contends, is more likely to bring peace than the 1993 PLO-Israel accord, the principal effect of which has been to give Zionism undeserved legitimacy — Middle East International.

Toby Ash

The silkworm — man's best friend

By Jean-Marc Dupuich

Just like the bee, but without its stings, the silkworm works for man. Unfortunately, it is prone to bronchitis and can only live in a temperate climate. French biologists are manipulating its genes so as to be able to acclimatise it to the tropics and to use its proteins in the pharmaceutical industry.

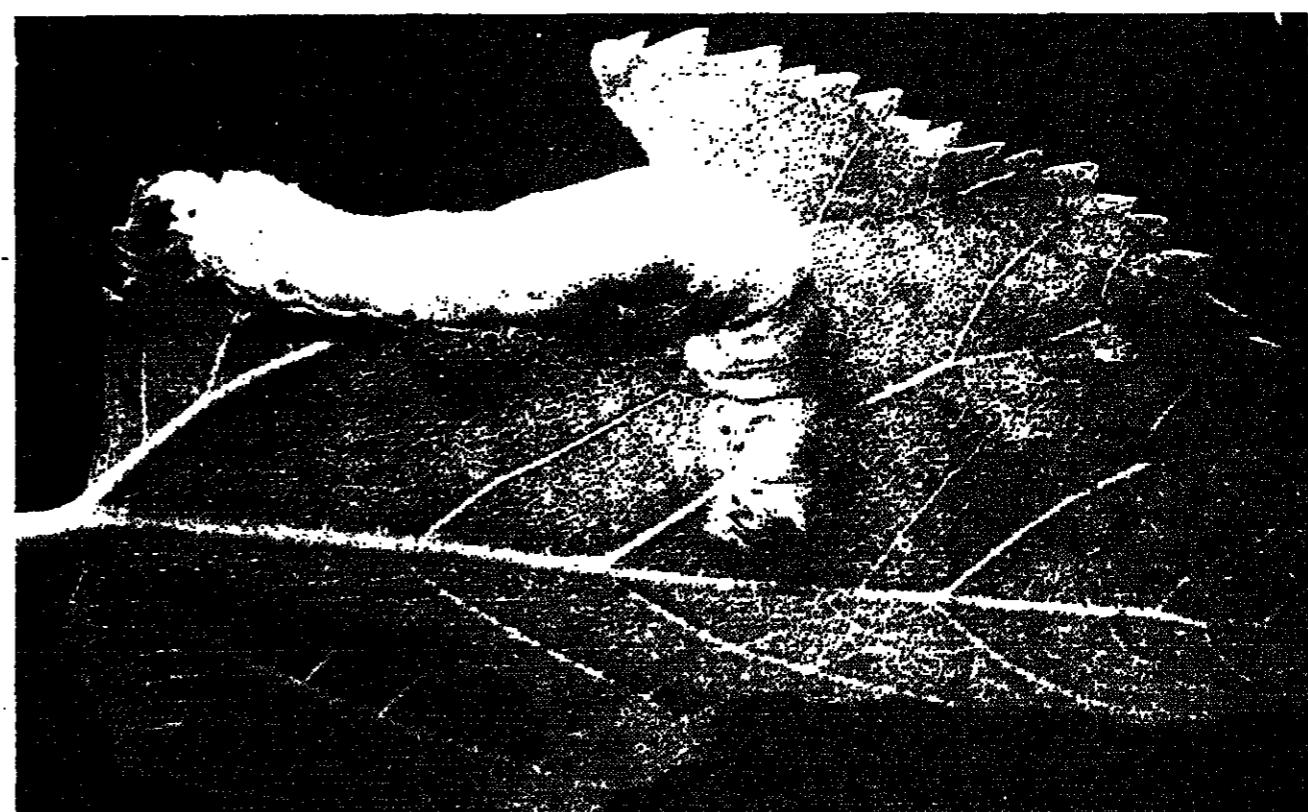
PARIS — When one thinks of silk, one has images of lingerie that is so soft that it feels like skin on skin, beautifying the body. One also thinks of clothes, light as a cloth made of breath, shimmering beneath a care of light. But do people realise that this voluptuous creature is spewed out by a caterpillar, the larva of the bombyx mori, commonly known as a silkworm, of which one could say, parafrasing the famous words spoken by Arletty in the film *Being Du Jour*: "its existence is no life at all".

Twenty layers. Protected by this hard shell, the caterpillar turns into a chrysalis before transforming itself into a moth, the bombyx mori.

What mad scientist could have dreamt of such a lepidoptera? Its wings serve no purpose as it cannot fly. Nor is it able to feed as it no longer has a mouth. With its useless wings and its atrophied digestive system, its whole body is nothing but a reproductive organ, and it devotes the few days of its short existence to reproduction. It mates, it lays its eggs and then it dies... of hunger.

But only 1 per cent of bombyxes meet this fate. The remaining 99 per cent do not have the time to turn into moths. Barely have they dried the last drible of silk hanging on the corner of their mouths than they are boiled. The chrysalides are killed by the heat and the cocoons, which have been softened by the boiling water and then fluffed up with a brush, release the end of the thread in which they are wrapped. The thread is then unravelled. This

programme is also seeking ways to immunise this worm which has frail health and to acclimatise it to the tropics. The project also aims to "improve its secreting performance by identifying the genes



The Silkworm works for man

which control the production of silk."

And that is not all. In addition to these commercial objectives which are aimed at diversifying the

sources of production (China practically has a monopoly on the sale of raw silk), the Eurochrysalis programme also wants to turn the bombyx caterpillar into a protein factory. Already, the thread that it secretes consists entirely of proteins. There are two filaments of fibron

The purpose now is to modify the silkworm's genetic heritage to make it spew forth proteins of pharmaceutical interest — L'Actualité En France.

Me? Addicted?

By Jean-Claude Elias

There are strange similarities between cigarette smoking and personal computing. You do it "fully" or you don't.

To start with, people who use a personal computer (PC) tend to work several hours a week, if not a day, on the machine. Very few will spend only a couple of hours per week computing. How many smokers can do with three or four cigarettes a day? Without citing statistics, we all know that real smokers need at least one pack per 24 hours.

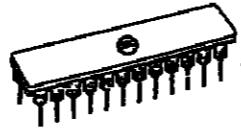
Extensive hours before your PC screen, your fingers running on the keyboard are not only physically exhausting but very much mind stressing. The damage smoking does to humans has recently been one of the media's favourite topic for us not to explain more.

The problem, you might have guessed, is called addiction.

Even though there is more to computing than the negative aspect of addiction, PC users, those really in love with the machine, forget sleep, food, friends, children and spouse when they sit and start their love affair with the monster.

Operating a PC requires a minimum of mental concentration. This tends to create a strong, invisible link between the computer and the operator. The latter has a feeling of comfort and confidence that puts him on a magic cloud. The PC is predictable, won't argue and can't be switched on and off whenever one pleases. Unlike TV, computing is an interactive action. It is an escape from life's daily problems, an isolation from the people or things we do not want to communicate with.

chip talk



Another, very logical reason why personal computing is extremely time consuming is that in order to become efficient in operating a PC, one needs to practice a lot, to keep learning new programmes, new games, new systems. Naturally, there are people who are satisfied with just an hour or less of computing every day. Chances are they do not actually need the PC and are very slow at operating it.

The phenomenon is now well known socially and the number of "computer widows", as the wife of a PC addict is called, is on the increase everywhere around the world. The attraction of some to computers is often seen as a real obsession. They would spend sleepless nights playing PC games, writing programmes, learning software that looks great but they will never need.

A genuine PC "freak" will let his friends have parties or his family go to picnics without him. He'd rather stay at home with his only true love.

There goes the story of a PC addict whose wife tried to convince him to give up computing and take to smoking — "at least we would have some conversation" she told him. The man loved the cigarette, became a chain smoker and remained a PC addict.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaqir

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

- * In 1940, nine gallons milk were bought for one dollar only!
- * At a university in the Indiana state, a device run by batteries had been made to set to work the central nervous system of a paralysed dog.
- * A wealthy man in California recommended cremating his body. Immediately after stuffing the ashes into two dozens of fireworks and then shooting them into the sky so as to be scattered in the air.
- * A law promulgated by the Texas state had banned decorating "the cherry cake" with ice-cream.
- * Last year a ceremony was held to celebrate the wedding of a 69-year old woman to a 71-year old man in a skiing ring in Pennsylvania.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

- How old are you? *Kam omrak?*
— Fifty, but I'm going to be fifty-one next Friday.
Khamsoon, wa-lakin sa'abogh wahid wa-khamsoon youm el-Juma'a el-kadim.
- You look much younger than your age! *Innaka tabdoo as'gar kathiran min sinnik.*
- It doesn't matter how old I am. One is as young as he feels.
La yahou kam omri. Shababul'marie yanbu min chasibi.
- I'd say your wife is about forty-five.
Azon anna zawiataks tab'logh khamsan wa'arba'oon.
- That's a correct guess. *Haza takhmeen sahih.*
- How do you feel after this long age?
Kayfa task'or ba'da hazal-omr et-tawee!
- I feel energetic and active.
Ash'or bil'hayawiya wan'nashat.
- How do you keep fit?
Kayfa tohaif ala layasatikal badaniya?
- I follow a particular diet and practice sport every morning.
Aseer hasba nizam giza'i khass wa'omaress al-riyadha kolla sabah.

■ Numbers:

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Ten: | <i>Ashra</i> |
| Twenty: | <i>Ishraaon</i> |
| Thirty: | <i>Thalathoon</i> |
| Forty: | <i>Arba'oon</i> |
| Fifty: | <i>Khamsan</i> |
| Sixty: | <i>Sittoon</i> |
| Seventy: | <i>Sab'on</i> |
| Eighty: | <i>Thamanoon</i> |
| Ninety: | <i>Tiss'oona</i> |

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

TIME FOR FUN

- * MOTHER: "Eat your spinach, it'll put colour to your cheeks."
DAUGHTER: Who wants green cheeks?!
- ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
- * TEACHER: Correct this sentence: "It was me that spilt the ink."
PUPIL: It wasn't me that spilt the ink.
- ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

- * FIRST BOY: My brother earns his living with his pen.
SECOND BOY: Oh, is he an author?
FIRST BOY: No, he keeps pigs.
- ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
- * A woman returned home one evening and asked her new maid: "Did you clean out the refrigerator as I told you?"

- "Yes, ma'am," said the girl. "And everything was delicious."

YOUR CHARACTER IN FOCUS BORN ON JUNE 1

- Kind-hearted and sympathetic.
- Easily influenced by praise.
- Very sensitive, idealistic and endowed with imagination.
- Has dual nature; others find difficulty to understand him.
- Has an active mind, always ready for any emergency.
- Usually restless and desires travel or change.
- Usually successful in life due to his active nature.
- Honest and acknowledged his faults.
- Changeable, not constant in friendship.
- Cheerful and happy; his outlook on life is very optimistic.
- Has a quick grasp of any subject and can participate spontaneously in conversation.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

PUZZLES

- (A) 250 UP:
It is possible to use a certain figure eight times to produce the sum of 250 by addition.

How is it done?

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

(B) WORD SUM:

The method of travel used by many businessmen of the present day is suggested by the arrangement of words below. Actually, it is an addition in which the figures in the first five lines and in the total have been replaced by letters. These letters, numbered 1234567890, in that order, form a keyword, by means of which the sum can be worked out.

Find this KEYWORD, and substitute the appropriate figure for the letters.



Cinderella and the invasion

By E. Yaghi

How would you feel if you were invaded by seven grandchildren at one explosive time? The most rational thing you might do on the spur of such a nerve racking moment is to rush to the nearest closet and bolt yourself in. But Cinderella, now a grandmother, who once had rode off into the dark purple hills with her knight in shining armour, did nothing of the sort. In fact, by now, not only was she older but she was not supposedly wise, for if she had been, she would not have invited any of her married children to dinner in the first place. Nevertheless, Granny Cindy braved an invitation extended to her married son who had two children and her married daughter who had five, and guess what? The moment those darling, sweet, perfumed little beings who sort of resembled humans arrived at her house, they commenced running in every direction until quite dizzy, the poor old lady lost track of which grandchild was running where. Foolishly, old granny had vacuumed the carpet, cleaned the bathroom and mopped the kitchen floor before her precious grandkids stormed through the house and once in, papers, books, balls and toys of every manner flew into the air in every direction as old granny crept into the kitchen to hide behind the food she planned to whip up with her daughter. Grandfather was nowhere in sight for her, much more clever than his wife, had sneaked off to the woods with his brother for a day of sun and fun, leaving poor old granny to defend the fort. Well, the old lady worked and worked and cooked and cooked while every once in a while her bachelor sons bounced into the kitchen to taste her brew and yell: "Hurry up mom, we're starving!"

In defence she sighed: "But you just woke up at 12 noon and I fed you breakfast not long ago, so how can you be starving so soon?" Somehow, all the commotion, nagging, cooking, sweating and so on, reminded her of her long ago days when she had to work so hard to feed her nasty step-mother and ugly step-sisters and now it seemed history was repeating itself except for the fact that her children were not ugly, just demanding slave drivers. Next to her side, valiantly stood her daughter, the mother of five out of seven screaming monsters that had infested her previously relatively quiet home. Both females stuffed cabbage leaves, eggplant and green pepper, as well as fried and baked some chicken all to the tune of kids of all sizes, screaming, crying, laughing and banging their way all over the house.

At last dinner was served. Finally all the grandchil-

dren for the first time congregated in one area around the food spread out before them. At first, after everyone helped himself or herself, the grandchildren pretended they were civilised, but they soon gave this facade up and started reaching to all parts of the table for second servings. Shortly, the entire area was covered with food and someone managed to spill a glass of soda right in the middle of everything. Did the food really taste good? Who knows amidst such confusion and so many children. At last, dinner over, those little darlings with the greasy, messy hands which successfully managed to touch most of the furniture, resumed their laughter, screaming, yelling and crying to the pure delight of Granny Cindy.

As the last grandchild rolled out of her house, a wizened old lady surveyed the damage done and once again took out her little red vacuum cleaner and swept all the mess away. Well, almost all, for the kitchen floor had spots every few inches and the house had a general topsy turvy look to it. Had she really even had the chance to visit her daughter and son while their children were darting in and out? It didn't seem like it, but she thought she'd wait a while before she repeated this day's experience.

That night, grandfather nonchalantly breezed in after all his grandchildren had gone, took one look at his rumpled wife and said: "Well, you seem as though you've had a busy day," in a carefree manner, apparently satisfied he had missed all the action.

Next morning, old, tired, decrepit Grandmother Cinderella wobbled around the house feeling ever so much older. Later that same day, her bachelor sons rushed to her by turn and said: "Hurry up mom and iron our clothes for us. We're going to a wedding!"

So, she ironed and she ironed and she ironed some more and then answered such questions as: "Hey, mom, does this look OK or should I wear something else?"

After her kids tramped out of the house on their way to the wedding ball, Granny Cindy moaned and groaned: "It seems just like old times. Here I am, getting everyone ready for the ball and then staying home all by myself alone and forgotten."

At this late date, I don't think she has a fairy godmother anymore, for she must have died ages ago, along with the mice. And since she already married the charming prince, the old days of losing a glass slipper on the palace steps were past too. It seemed the best thing to do was to sit by the embers of the dying fire and dream of long ago times when she was young as she nodded her head in slumber to the music of a string of musical snores.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, July 28

9:10 Murder she wrote

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week — Mrs. Arris Goes To Paris

Starring: Angela Lansbury, Diana Rigg and Omar Sharif

On a trip to Paris to choose a designer's dress, an old lady gets to meet people who influence her life and who grew to depend on her kindness and judgement.

11:10 The Munsters Today

Friday, July 29

9:00 E.N.G.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Emilie

Rozette and Emilie become close friends, and both are devastated by the sickness of Lazar and Avid.

Saturday, July 30

8:30 The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air

9:30 The Campbells

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Casablanca Express

Starring: Glen Ford and Jason Connery
Away from the German spying eyes, the British and the Americans are to transfer Winston Churchill from Algiers to Casablanca for a meeting with U.S. President F.D. Roosevelt.

Sunday, July 31

8:30 You Bet Your Life

9:10 Stolen Lives

Dawn, at present, takes care of Sam, her best friend. Evelyn — in the past — recalls how James took her to South Africa after the war... in search for a better and a new life.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The House Of Elliott

The two sisters strike a deal with a newly established "house" in London... as rumours spread more openly about the love between Eevie and Alexander.

11:10 The Second Half

One Flew Over A Nest Of Cuckoos

As John's daughter leaves hospital after catching a flu, he and a couple of friends share the same experience after they also are infected.

Monday, Aug. 1

8:30 My Big Brother Jake

9:30 A Galactic Odyssey

Panorama Of The Star Spangled Heavens

The science fiction spaceship Helius — with its 4-member crew — goes into space. Its aim: To reach the centre of the sun.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Matrix

To Err Is Human

Matrix is assigned to help the very homicide cop who is trying to put Matrix behind bars for accidentally killing a man.

11:10 No Job For A Lady

White Knight

Woman MP, Jean, wages a war against drug smugglers; her war leads her to dangerous zones.

Tuesday, Aug. 2

8:30 Hollywood Stunt Makers

9:10 The Commish

In The Best Of Families

Son of rich man is in custody. His repeated threats of suicide becomes Commissioner Scali's nightmare.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Burden Of Proof

Starring: Stefanie Powers and Victoria Principal

Sandy is on a case of fraud, involving not only his brother-in-law, but his own two children.

11:10 Harry and The Andersons

Body Guard

Harry, the giant, comes to the rescue of Arnie and Tim, whose fight involves a pair of old shoes.

Wednesday, Aug. 3

9:10 The Native Of Things

Diabetes, Blood Sugar, Sweat and Fears

All you need to know about diabetes: its effect on how the body functions, the latest in its treatment, and a study of diabetics among the Red Indians in Canada and others in Finland.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Nanny

asion

in one area around them. At first, after herself, the grandchildre but they soon gave the to all parts of the table, the entire area was one managed to spill a lot of everything. Did she know amidst such an. At last, dinner over, easy, messy hands over most of the furniture, running, yelling and crying my Cindy.

ed out of her house, a damage done and one vacuum cleaner and swept all for the kitchen. And the house had a Had she really even had a brother and son while their life before she repeated

unchalantly breezed gone, took one look at all, for the kitchen. Acclaimed for songs like White Rose Of Athens and her distinctive look, characterised by unmistakable glasses, she says she has no intention of giving up singing, but that she will find the time to fill her responsibilities as a Euro-MP.

"I will take the time that I need but I will continue to sing I will organise myself very well," she told Reuters in an interview during a visit to Brussels.

"I think that a person who has been very popular and also received so much from around the world, comes to a point that they want to give

Euro-MP — ambitious career politicians lugging tonnes of documents between the European Union's directly elected assembly's seats in Brussels and Strasbourg.

But she says her life as a popular figure and as one of the "first Europeans," having lived in different parts of Europe and speaking and singing six languages fluently, have equipped her for the more human side of politics.

"I'm part of the people and I'm interested in people, especially in children and youth which I think is the future, not only of Europe, it's the future of the world," she said.

"I think that a person who has been very popular and also received so much from around the world, comes to a point that they want to give

back some of this care and attention they have had all their life and the knowledge and experience they have."

In the weeks since her election on June 12 she has attacked her job with zeal, commuting between her home in Geneva, her recording base in Paris and Brussels for meetings with colleagues in the pan-European European People's Party (Christian Democrats).

Elected in the number three slot of the list of "new Democracy," the moderate right wing Greek party which gained nine seats in the 567-member assembly, she has set children's and youth issues at the top of her own political agenda.

She hopes as a Euro-MP to be able to carry on work she has done since

becoming ambassador for the performing arts for the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, last October.

She has already lined herself up for places on the European Parliament's Education and Culture Committees.

One of the first things she did on her appointment to UNICEF was to visit children in war-torn Bosnia.

"I was a child of the war myself," she told journalists at the time of her appointment to UNICEF.

"During the second

world war I remember

kids crying with terror in

the streets among torn off

limbs, sitting in pools of

blood. Later during the

Greek Civil War I saw

neighbours and brothers

slaughtering each other. I

accepted the UNICEF job

with the idea that I might be able to stop all that happening again."

Mouskouri says helping children in African countries is a priority, but that young people's needs in Europe should not be forgotten in the process.

Although she has lived most of her life outside the country where she was born in 1934, having become a celebrity in her adopted homeland France, she says one of her principal goals is to strengthen ties between Greece and the other EU countries.

"It's very important for my country to have understanding with the other countries. It's a question that each one keeps its culture, its identity, but works together," she said.

She says it is also important that she is one of

Greece's first women Euro-MPs. Four women were elected this time, but Greece had no women at all in the outgoing parliament.

She says that while she herself has not faced great problems getting on in life as a woman it is important to raise the political profile of Greek women in Europe.

She follows in the steps of the late actress Melina Mercouri who was minister of culture in Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's Socialist (Pasok) government.

In March she became the first person outside the Mercouri family to back the new Melina Mercouri Institute and memorial set up to preserve the Parthenon and continue the former minister's campaign



Nana Mouskouri

100,000 discs sold.

Mouskouri lives with her partner and musical director Andre Chapelle. She has two children by an earlier marriage.

Nana Mouskouri makes her debut at the European Parliament

By Janet McEvoy
Reuter

BRUSSELS — Greek singer, Nana Mouskouri stepped onto a different stage when she became one of her country's new members of the European Parliament.

Acclaimed for songs like White Rose Of Athens and her distinctive look, characterised by unmistakable glasses, she says she has no intention of giving up singing, but that she will find the time to fill her responsibilities as a Euro-MP.

"I will take the time that I need but I will continue to sing I will organise myself very well," she told Reuters in an interview during a visit to Brussels.

"I think that a person who has been very popular and also received so much from around the world, comes to a point that they want to give

back some of this care and attention they have had all their life and the knowledge and experience they have."

In the weeks since her election on June 12 she has attacked her job with zeal, commuting between her home in Geneva, her recording base in Paris and Brussels for meetings with colleagues in the pan-European European People's Party (Christian Democrats).

Elected in the number three slot of the list of "new Democracy," the moderate right wing Greek party which gained nine seats in the 567-member assembly, she has set children's and youth issues at the top of her own political agenda.

"I was a child of the war myself," she told journalists at the time of her appointment to UNICEF.

"During the second

world war I remember

kids crying with terror in

the streets among torn off

limbs, sitting in pools of

blood. Later during the

Greek Civil War I saw

neighbours and brothers

slaughtering each other. I

accepted the UNICEF job

with the idea that I might be able to stop all that happening again."

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Janitor's hidden talent finally comes to light

EDITOR'S NOTE — Few of his American friends suspected that Haitian-born Jacques Midi, the town hall janitor in Greenburgh, N.Y., was a talented sculptor who carved powerful images from blocks of wood. Now, after 13 years of scrubbing floors, Midi is attracting attention in the art world.

By Kiley Armstrong
The Associated Press

GREENBURGH, N.Y. — As a child, Jacques Midi survived hunger and hardship. By his own, modest, definition, he now enjoys prosperity: A steady job as a janitor, plenty of food on the table.

Still, Midi does without. He'd rather share his bounty with loved ones left behind in his native Haiti.

For 13 years, Midi — resigned to earning a reliable living for their sake — had forced himself to forget that he once was an artist.

Then came a happenstance chat, and a little encouragement.

Hesitantly, he picked up some sculpting tools. He found that the muse had never really left.

When others saw what he had created, the word quickly spread.

"As Nora Zeale Hurston, a maid, ended up being a great American novelist, Midi, given the chance, could become a very significant artist," predicts Charles H. Rowell, editor of Callaloo, a Virginia-based, black cultural journal.

For now, though, Midi is content in his role as local hero, relishing adulation and opportunities in his adopted hometown that he never dared to imagine.

His "American Dream," says Midi, is

Three naked children

coming true. Jacques Midi is a lyrical storyteller, with words and wood.

The events unfold through his words, with their swirling pitch and graceful rhythm, bestowed in a Caribbean patois.

But words fail him when it comes to describing his feelings.

The feelings come out through his sculpture.

His hands — strong yet nimble — are the link between the words and the feelings. They carve, of course. And they also dance as Midi, marveling, retells his life's journey.

Glimpse, through his words and his sculpture, Midi's own childhood.

A woman, beleaguered yet beautiful, chiseled into a foot-tall chunk of wood. She worked in a factory, and in the fields.

"She carried a bowl and when she made money, she'd buy some food."

Three naked children

clinging to her: "Me, my sister, my baby brother." They strain toward the bowl.

Fortune shines on the boy: He's putting a morsel into his mouth. His sister, hand outstretched, is still begging.

"When I was growing up, my dream was to come to America," says Midi, 45. "I'd do a side job to get the 12 cents to see a John Wayne movie on a Sunday."

"I used to go to bed, hungry, and dream I'm here. When I'd wake up, I had gone nowhere."

But Midi was a doer, as well as a dreamer. "I said, 'I have to be somebody in my life.'"

At age 15, he was caught sneaking onto a Miami-bound boat. The misdeed brought him 10 months in a Haitian prison. That's where he learned to carve.

Midi quickly learned that art could ease his family's hunger: Tourists

paid \$6 for his carvings; a local gallery, a few dollars more.

It would take three decades to discover that art could also satisfy his heart.

Midi finally made it out of Haiti — emigrating to Jamaica, and then, on April 22, 1981, to America.

In Miami, he gathered fallen branches and carved, like he had back home, for tourists on the beach. But the police stopped him. Fearing deportation, Midi abandoned art for more lucrative livelihoods: Dishwashing, car cleaning, truck driving.

Love brought him north, to this New York City suburb of 83,000, a few years ago.

Luck landed him the janitor's job. Night after night, he'd scrub down

Practically every dime from the job has gone to his ailing mother and

director of Les Mathurins has put En Attendant Les Boeufs, a play by Christian Dob, on the programme. He himself hinted the subject to the playwright and staged it himself also acting in it. But the post-Palmes De Mr. Schutz period is proving difficult and, after having the greatest success of the century, Gérard Cailloux is experiencing the flop of his career.

En Attendant Les Boeufs is no longer playing and the fact of being able to have a rest after being on stage every evening for five years, is of no consolation to the unhappy director who is puzzled at the failure of the gay and tender comedy set in the Middle Ages. "Maybe the subject, the building of Europe, has discouraged potential spectators.

And yet it was a nice story which we had carefully staged with ten actors and several decors... It is all very sad". And when it is suggested that perhaps Les Mathurins can rest on the laurels of Les Palmes De Mr. Schutz, Gérard Cailloux sighs: "In the theatre, one makes little money and slowly at that, but one loses it quickly and a lot!" — L'Actualité En France.

seven siblings: So much, in fact, that his own electricity once was cut off for lack of payment.

"If I don't send money for food, they're going to die," he says, matter-of-factly.

All along, co-workers were impressed by this "decent" guy. But few suspected what was beneath the surface.

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Breakthrough in fight to keep bloodbanks free of disease

By Rick Louth
Reuter

AMSTERDAM — Imagine the horror of undergoing emergency surgery and finding the blood transfusing which saved your life also gave you a fatal disease.

This is what happened to Arthur Ashe, the former U.S. tennis star who died of AIDS in 1993 after receiving blood infected with the HIV virus during heart surgery.

It was not an isolated incident.

In the 15 years since the discovery of AIDS, 600,000 people worldwide have contracted the HIV virus through in-

fected blood or blood products. That is 15 per cent of all AIDS infections.

Now research presented at a blood transfusion conference here has spurred hopes that one single method of destroying all diseases in blood has been found.

Experiments in the United States show that natural skin tanning agents called Psoraleans, derived from an Egyptian plant, can be added to blood concentrates and when exposed to light destroy the genetic material of any infection they find.

"If successful this will mean by the turn of the century that all blood transfusions will be safe," said Paul Strengers, medical head of the Dutch Blood Transfusion Service and organiser of the conference.

Dozens of diseases, bacteria and parasites thrive in blood, including syphilis, the liver diseases hepatitis B and C, and parasitic infections such as malaria.

The doomsday scenario is the emergence of another blood-borne virus as powerful as HIV, which causes AIDS. The AIDS experience shows that by the time tests are developed it could already have been passed on in blood transfusions.

"The assumption we have to work on is that new viruses will enter the population," said Laurence Corash, medical director at Steritech, one of two Californian firms working on Psoraleans.

The other company is Cryopharm of Pasadena, which also presented data to the conference.

"We already have the problem that the HIV substrate zero which has come from West Africa, now beginning to show up in some of the European countries, is not well detected by existing tests," Dr. Corash told Reuters.

Currently, transfusion services have three lines of defence: Screening donors who have high risk of carrying certain diseases testing all blood dona-

tions for infection and the ability to heat treat some blood components to kill microbes.

There are many disadvantages. Donor screening trims back an often-inadequate supply of donors, tests are laborious and expensive — an average \$20 per blood donation — and cut the shelf-life of the products while results are awaited.

In the developing world, hospitals often do not have enough money or trained staff to use all the tests. But even in the West, where the tests are regularly used, mistakes occur.

The U.S. magazine News And World Report said this month that a five-month investigation

showed hundreds of HIV-contaminated blood donations and 4,200 tainted by hepatitis slip into U.S. bloodbanks each year through errors or accidents.

"We cannot say any blood product is 100 per cent safe concerning the HIV virus or hepatitis," Dr. Strengers said.

Donated blood is split into component parts. Blood plasma, which is used for its proteins, can be heat-treated to kill viruses and infection.

But the red blood cells, used to replenish oxygen after heavy loss, and platelets, used to attract clotting factors to the site of a wound, die if heated.

Neither of these cell products can be cleansed

of disease at the moment, which means every blood donation must undergo around seven tests. If infected they are discarded.

Psoraleans may offer an answer. A bag of blood concentrate would be put in a machine which would automatically add the chemicals and expose them to light.

Although viruses, bacteria and parasites are very different from each other, they all have strips of genetic material in the centre of their cells which allow them to multiply.

Light-activated Psoraleans stitch these protein strips in new chemical bonds, stopping them unzipping to form new cells. If diseases cannot multiply they offer no threat.

A light-sensitive tag on the bag would clearly differentiate treated from untreated blood, and Dr. Corash said the aim would be to make the process simple enough that even junior laboratory assistants could use it without error.

Nevertheless, the process is still at an early stage. Dr. Steritech's treatment for red cell concentrate is not yet patented, though the platelet version should be starting clinical trials by the second quarter of 1995.

"From a clinical and pharmaceutical viewpoint its effects must still be proven," Dr. Strengers added.

China's 'one-child' policy threatens alarming social impact

By Gillian Dinnage
Agence France Presse

BEIJING — With its spoilt "little emperors" growing up, China is taking belated steps to try to minimise the potentially far-reaching social impact of its draconian urban family planning policy.

The army of plump, pampered children that has emerged since China moved in 1981 to curb the growth of its vast population by strictly limiting urban couples to one child has long been the object of somewhat amused irritation.

But, with the eldest now approaching adolescence, common traits of greed and selfishness — nurtured by doting parents and grandparents who direct all their family's hopes on a single progeny — can no longer be so easily brushed off in a country where corruption and inefficiency are already major problems.

The excessive love and protection focused on children has decreased their

practical ability," said child psychologist Wang Baoxiang. "They've no respect for property, no ability to act independently, little courage and poor ability to communicate."

With 15 years of break-neck development exacerbating the "one-child" policy's negative impact by increasing parents' ability to satisfy their offspring's every whim, a Western family planning expert here expressed concern about the implications for China's future.

"These children have grown up in a time of increasing optimism, increasing wealth," he said. "I dread to think what will happen to the economy with all these people expecting a lot for nothing — the effects could be quite astonishing."

State Family Planning Commission Education Department Director Jiang Yiman maintains the government foresees these problems and has the situation under control, insisting "it's impossible

to have a whole corrupted generation."

But the Western expert doubted the government fully considered the social implications when launching its "one-child" policy, noting that its overriding concern was to limit growth of the 1.2-billion-strong population.

The true extent of official concern about the next generation's ability to shoulder the responsibility of economic development is reflected in the intensification in recent years of a campaign to reform the behaviour of both urban children and their parents.

Special newspapers and schools for parents have emerged in cities nationwide to stress the importance of neither spoiling nor putting excessive pressure to succeed on the country's single children.

Children themselves are targeted by television programmes highlighting the hardships of their rural counterparts, and sent on school outings to learn first-hand how the other half lives.

"We need to reform the education system to stress the need to be civilised, to have morality, to serve the public," said Population Association of China Vice President Wu Gangping.

"If parents and schools can cooperate then single children can be trained to be very good citizens, trained not to be so selfish," he said.

But the Western expert dismissed Chinese officials' "enormous faith" in education as unfounded, saying the "little emperor" syndrome could not be solved without eliminating its cause — the "one-child" policy.

Even Chinese specialists admitted grudgingly that it will be very hard to "remould" many single children — particularly those already 13 or 14 years old — into upstanding citizens.

"This will be a very strange place in the next generation," said the Population and Research Centre's Gu, shaking his head at the prospect.

Rome — A controversial Italian fertility doctor, whose 62-year-old patient has become the world's oldest mother, said Tuesday he would fight to enable older women and lesbians to conceive through artificial means.

Severino Antinori assisted the pregnancy of Rosanna Della Corte who gave birth to a boy Monday after a donor's fertilised eggs were implanted in her uterus.

He said the decision to conceive artificially should be between a woman and her doctor.

"It is up to the woman to decide whether she wants a child and it is up to her doctor to evaluate that decision," Dr. Antinori told a news conference.

"My colleagues and I will continue to fight for civil rights and the rights of older women and homosexuals to have children."

So-called "granny pregnancies" have unleashed an ethical storm in Roman Catholic Italy, where lack of legislation has made the country a magnet for post-menopausal women who want to have children.

A government-appointed committee recommended last month that scientifically assisted pregnancies should be limited to heterosexual couples of childbearing age.

The recommendations serve as non-binding guidelines pending laws on artificial insemination, test-tube fertilisation and a woman's physical and mental health.

"That committee has no ethics," Dr. Antinori said. "I am calling on the health minister to appoint a new committee to show us whether the government is truly committed to fostering life."

The committee's advice coincided with a controversy over a lesbian who had a baby girl after artificial insemination so she could raise the child with her woman companion.

"I would say that a 63-year-old woman with a life expectancy of between 20 and 25 years is the oldest woman I would help," he said.

He said he had helped many post-menopausal women give birth since

Italian fertility doctor defends granny-mums

By Samantha Conti
Reuter

ROME — A controversial Italian fertility doctor, whose 62-year-old patient has become the world's oldest mother, said Tuesday he would fight to enable older women and lesbians to conceive through artificial means.

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He said he had helped many post-menopausal women give birth since

1988 and had rejected more than 400.

Mrs. Della Corte, who is aged 62 years and seven months, gave birth to a 3.3 kilogram boy Monday after treatment at Dr. Antinori's Rome fertility clinic.

Dr. Antinori said Mrs. Della Corte and the child were doing well and that they would leave the hospital in five days' time.

"She is already feeling fine and walking around. It was as if a woman of 20 gave birth," Dr. Antinori said.

The doctor said he subjected potential patients and their partners to a battery of physical and psychological tests to determine whether they were fit to bear and raise a child.

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"She is already feeling fine and walking around. It was as if a woman of 20 gave birth," Dr. Antinori said.

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more levels were much higher than those seen in newborns undergoing surgery.

Stress hormones barely rose among the other fetuses.

Dr. Fisk said further research is needed before giving pain-relieving drugs to fetuses, to make sure they do more good than harm.

He also said no one has ever studied human

fetuses younger than 23 weeks.

In the United States, 91 per cent of abortions are done within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. Slightly less than 9 per cent are done between 12 and 24 weeks, according to International Planned Parenthood in Washington. Third trimester abortions are usually done only when a mother's life is in danger.

The investigators studied 31 fetuses, between 23 and 34 weeks of gestation, that needed to have blood withdrawn for life-saving procedures. Fifteen fetuses had blood taken from a liver artery, the rest had blood taken from the umbilical cord, which does not have nerves.

Dr. Fisk said although getting blood from the liver is more invasive, in some cases it is necessary to insert a needle into fetuses for blood transfusions.

This is the same chemical response that occurs when children and adults feel pain.

Other experts said the study is intriguing but does not prove fetuses are hurting.

Dr. Fisk said the hormone

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

A LITTLE ALLITERATION
By Nancy Miller

ACROSS
1 North Sea feeder
5 Capital of
Bavaria, ver.
10 Red river
15 Mt range
18 Soft dress
21 Loop when thinking
22 Time of day
23 Four feet
24 Letters ESS
25 Letter Q
26 No success
28 Tower sailor
30 Above success
32 Tower sailor
33 Fund of land
34 Computer hardware
35 Building structures
36 House name
37 No hard

38 Small arms device
41 Literal
42 Tidy term
45 Address Oberon
46 Stadium sounds
47 Lure and King
48 Cut of meat
49 Get a grip
50 Practice boating
51 Pastoral Root
52 Charming and
53 Movie with
eddying motion
54 Rainy city
55 Taken off
56 Wear away
57 Practice
58 Practice boating
59 From busy
city to quiet
60 Combats
convenience
61 Safety
62 Hold back
63 Player on the
dealer's right
64 Fortune
65 More difficult
66 Men of Mezzo

67 Melodic subject
68 Big League
student
69 Ancient king of
England
70 Oregano
71 Orange
72 Strong
73 Gazing light
74 Acronym
75 Whimsy work
76 Reindeer
77 Organ
78 Lurking
79 Far from busy
city to quiet
80 Combats
convenience
81 Safety
82 Hold back
83 Player on the
dealer's right
84 Fortune
85 More difficult
86 Men of Mezzo

87 Last Week's Cryptograms

1 Game Ping-Pong champ scored big win against tall opponent aboard slow boat
2 How can meteorologists and weathermen often guess wrong but not be fired?
3 Spelling bee contestant has trouble articulating certain letters in alphabet.
4 Put "stomachache" in a cryptogram and it may very well bring on a headache in would-be solvers.

CRYPTOGRAMS
1. RIIF CO WUELCOM IZ MWUEH TAEPPCTF
CP NUATIFUL NEWFAD RD ACRWEWD
PREZZ
—By Ed Hoddison

2. I MTAIG UGTRAG. TRAGEDY TIAGFC
UGTHRYG UGEV LTRAG ED AKITLG HO
OTEAG OTREU, LTIAGKA GEA AVEFF
MIXFC LTRAGKX
—By Diane H. McGoggy

3. OTOPHGRP ARGOE PSH DPGNEE
ANIPGNSETX BGOHXX TDIFEPDBO.
—By Barbara J. Rausch

4. ACREZ ZULRSFUL PACFT BADTRIP
ADESIRE UC ZBR BULCT UP S FAIRDDS.
—By Frank N. Stein

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

(A) 222+22+2+2=250
(B):
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
PERSIFLANT

Diagonics 21 x 21. By James Barrick

ACROSS

1 Gets ready to fire
2 Charged
3 There's severity
4 Brightens
5 Equine
10 Thrust in
11 Threatener
12 Threatener
13 Direction indicator
14 Jungle beasts
15 Pealed ways:
16 Dance movements
17 Extra postage
18 Brightens
19 Equine
20 Thrust in
21 Threatener
22 Threatener
23 Direction indicator
24 Orchestra members

25 Mouth wide open
26 Tiny openings
27 Stage direction
28 Orchestra members

50 Michelangelo's masterpiece
51 Movie or obituse
52 Owners
53 Item in an
aristocrat's
library
54 City in Arizona
5

King: Overwhelming majority of Jordanians rejoice with me

Rabin: We are committed to build relations of peace

Clinton says Mideast peace "vibrations" resonate in Moscow

WASHINGTON — President Clinton suggested July 26 that the "vibrations" for peace sent out by King Hussein and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin may resonate from Washington to Moscow.

"As he praised the two leaders for ending the 46-year state of war between Israel and Jordan, Clinton said that Russian President Boris Yeltsin had sent a message expressing "how pleased he was by the Mideast accord and also telling Clinton that he had agreed to withdraw Russian troops from Estonia by August 31, a reversal of his public position at the Naples summit July 10.

"I think that King Hussein and the prime minister have put peace in the air all over the world," Mr. Clinton declared at a news conference held jointly with the Jordanian and Israeli leaders.

Following is a transcript of the news conference, as released by the White House:

Mr. Clinton: Good afternoon. I am happy to once again welcome King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin.

In the last two days history has been made in Washington, and a brighter future has been built — a future that offers more peace and security not only for the people of Israel and Jordan, but also for the people of the United States. With great courage and foresight, the King and the prime minister have united in their conviction that it is time to end more than four decades of bloodshed and strife.

They have demonstrated that contact can overcome conflict, that direct talks can produce peace.

They have declared an end to the state of war between their two countries and have determined to secure a lasting peace. They have personally committed to making sure that a treaty is concluded as rapidly as possible.

When we met yesterday, the King, the prime minister and I agreed to designate representatives to ensure that the provisions of the Washington Declaration are implemented quickly.

In the week of extraordinary set of events, this morning we witnessed another one, as the King and the prime minister appeared jointly before Congress. Their eloquent remarks articulated a common vision of cooperation that will yield specific and concrete benefits for all peoples on both sides of the Jordan River.

The outpouring of support by members of Congress for these two heroes of peace, I believe clearly reflect the feelings of all the American people.

As I've made clear since my first meetings with the King and the prime minister, America will stand by those who take risks for peace. We are walking down the breaking dawn of peace in

Trilateral talks resume

(Continued from page 1)

He told congressmen: "With your help, I am certain that the imbalance between our societies can be reduced."

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Salam Majali met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in a Jordanian hotel on the Dead Sea last week to discuss joint Israeli-Jordanian economic projects.

The talks continued in Washington Wednesday, at

Car-bomb explodes in London

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Shara, who arrived in Paris Tuesday for a two-day visit, said Syria "believes that a just and global peace in the region will reduce military tensions and escalation and lead to security and stability."

He said: "Violence breeds violence and Syria is opposed to violence while Israel practices it in Lebanon and the occupied territories in one form or another."

Iran on Wednesday rejected Israeli allegations that it and Hezbollah were involved in the bombing of Jewish targets, and said the accusations were an attempt to justify attacks on the Shiite Muslim group in Lebanon.

will support leaders whose boldness and wisdom are creating a new Middle East.

Today I have reaffirmed to Prime Minister Rabin that as Israel moves forward in the peace process the constant responsibility of the United States will be to help ensure its security. I have also reaffirmed to King Hussein my determination to assist Jordan in dealing with its burden of debt and its defense requirements. I am working with Congress to achieve rapid action on both these matters.

The United States is committed to a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and an end to hostility between Israel and all her Arab neighbors.

I spoke yesterday with President Assad of Syria and reaffirmed my personal dedication to achieving a comprehensive peace. Secretary Christopher has devoted a great deal of time and effort to the negotiations with Syria, and I have asked him to return to the region soon to continue that work.

In these two days we have taken great strides on this road to peace. But even as these two leaders have come together, the enemies of peace have not been silent. In recent days terrorists have struck in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and in London. We will not, we must not, allow them to disrupt this peace process.

This week's events here in Washington and the bravery of King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin prove that a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is within reach. Inspired by the extraordinary events of the last two days, now we go forward with a new sense of determination and a new sense of confidence to take the next steps in the days and weeks ahead.

As I turn over the microphone, if I might, to the King and to the prime minister, let me say at the end of the statements we will take press questions in alternating order from the American, the Jordanian and the Israeli press.

King Hussein: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen: These have been unique days in our lives, yesterday and today. They have witnessed dreams, hopes and prayers realized in terms of an end to the state of war between Jordan and Israel. More important in terms of our determination to move ahead in executing our duties towards our people, towards our peoples in the entire region in the present and in the future that they live in peace with the ability to come together, for the opportunity to give their talents chance, to make a difference, to create at the breaking dawn of peace in

the sixth session of the trilateral economic committee.

Both Israel and Jordan also spoke of the threat to peace from terrorism, during a joint press conference with U.S. President Bill Clinton at the White House on Tuesday.

King Hussein said he had discussed with his senior officials the need to be on the alert for possible terrorist operations.

Despite opposition to the Israeli-Jordanian summit from opposition deputies in Jordan, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Taher Masri said: "The majority of Parliament supports it."

"We must avoid a situation where, once the euphoria of the Washington meeting has vanished, Jordan finds itself alone again to face the challenge to peace."

Regent sends message to King

(Continued from page 1)

But Mr. Masri, in Washington with the King, warned: "The state of non-belligerence between Jordan and Israel will be used by the Islamists as a platform for their opposition."

Therefore Jordan had to obtain "firm pledges of economic aid from Washington to allow it to fight against poverty, which leads to despair and extremism," Mr. Masri said.

"We must avoid a situation where, once the euphoria of the Washington meeting has vanished, Jordan finds itself alone again to face the challenge to peace."

The north London building, which was empty at the time, holds offices of Israeli and Jewish organizations including the Joint Israel Appeal, which raises funds for charities in Israel and Britain.

Tuesday afternoon, a car bomb heavily damaged the Israeli embassy in central London, injuring at least 14 people. By early Wednesday, only a man with a broken arm was still hospitalized.

What happened in Washington is a continuation of the peace process. Of course, as far as we are concerned, that's a step towards the Syrian and the Lebanese agreement, and liberating occu-

peasants.

first and foremost, an end of a state of belligerency — or as the King declared, end of state of war. Believe me, today in the Middle East, to reach commitment by the countries of the region for non-belligerency, no violence no terror, can be the greatest contribution to peace in the region, and not only in the region.

Between Jordan and Israel we have reached the end of the state of belligerency. But there is a need beyond the end of war, threats of war, violence and terror, to build a structure of peace. We lay the foundations to this world, to this work, to this place. The test will be to what extent we will succeed to build this structure of peace — to reach the kind of relations between Jordan and Israel that the man in the street in Amman and in Tel Aviv will call it a peace.

Therefore, hard work is before us. We are committed, I believe, on both sides to do what is needed in addition to the elimination of war — to build the relations of peace. We need your assistance, Mr. President in doing so.

Mr. Rabin: Well, as you know, Israel is not a nuclear country in terms of weapons and, therefore, your question is not relevant. We are committed to the United States for many years not to be the first to introduce nuclear weapons in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. But, at the same time, we cannot be blind to efforts that are made in certain Muslim and Arab countries in this direction.

We open a new chapter. We created a new landmark. But the road is still, hopefully not too long, but still work has to be done. We will do it. We need participation of those who preach peace to translate their words to realities, to practical support of those who take the risk for peace.

Thank you very much.

Question: I'd like to direct my question to Prime Minister Rabin. Mr. Prime Minister, when do you expect to pull your occupation troops out of southern Lebanon?

Mr. Rabin: As you know, there were three years of war in Lebanon which the purpose then declared by the government of Israel was to eliminate Lebanon as a basis for terrorism. In '85 the government — then the prime minister was Shimon Peres and I was the minister of defense; it was a national unity government — we decided to pull out. But in the absence of central government in Lebanon, in the absence of military and security forces that can take control of each sovereign soil, and with the continuation of at least Syrian division on the Lebanese soil and from the area that the Syrian army is deployed — Hezbollah takes

Mr. Clinton: Let me say, as you know, I have already met with President Assad once for an extended period of time in Geneva. We have talked many times on the phone, and the secretary of state has been to Syria on several occasions, and we are working hard there. But in the end, the lesson of the successes which have been enjoyed over the past year is that the best thing the United States can do is to help to create the conditions within which the parties themselves feel secure in making peace.

This is an agreement made by Israel and Jordan. In September we had an agreement freely made by Israel

said the future of the city can be settled through Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations.

Referring to Jordanian-Palestinian coordination in the wake of the Washington Declaration, the minister said that the question of Jerusalem will acquire priority in future talks.

"King Hussein deserves to be the custodian of the holy places in Jerusalem in recognition of his efforts to safeguard these places over the years," the minister said. He

The minister paid tribute to the United States for its role in the peace process.

PLO wants Arab meeting

(Continued from page 1)

PLO leader Yasser Arafat lobbied Arab leaders Tuesday for support over the Palestinian claim to Jerusalem.

He telephoned King Hassan of Morocco, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amer Musa and Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, Saudi Arabia's defense minister.

On Tuesday, Dr. Shaath said the Washington agreement was a positive step that could stimulate progress in talks between Israel and Syria.

"What happened in Washington is a continuation of the peace process. Of course, as far as we are concerned, that's a step towards the Syrian and the Lebanese agreement, and liberating occu-

peasants.

The declaration represented general principles on the path towards final peace, which would be acceptable to Jordanians, Israelis, Syrians and Americans," he said, adding that there would be no final and just peace unless all issues on the other tracks were solved.

The minister paid tribute to the United States for its role in the peace process.

pied Syrian and Lebanese land.

Jordan entering this process will also bring back Jordanian territory so we think it's an achievement towards a comprehensive agreement. Progress on the Jordanian track is positive and we want to see that reflected on the Syrian track."

Dr. Shaath said the Palestinians merely wanted to know what the implications of the agreement were.

"Is it a reference of support for the Arab status of Jerusalem, is it a reference to general support for the religious places, is it in any way a change in the declaration of principles which we have with the Israelis? It's just a question of trying to understand," he said.

alarming," Dr. Ashrawi added, noting that the Israelis were increasingly talking only of municipal and not general elections.

"We had an agreement and we have to concentrate on this issue."

"Elections are crucial," said Dr. Ashrawi, who now heads a human rights group. "They are the sine qua non for the health of a nation."

"If Israel doesn't withdraw, we can't run elections, neither local nor general."

He said he had been in consultation with the European Union, which is providing training and facilities for the elections to a Palestinian council which will take over responsibility for daily affairs in Gaza and the West Bank for the five years of self-rule.

Before the 481 polling stations can open, laws have to be regulated and unified between the West Bank and Gaza, each of which still follows a mixture of old Turkish, British and Egyptian legal systems.

Dr. Erakat said a new election law was being drafted and would be ready in a week.

Former Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi warned of two dangers for elections.

"It must be this year," she told AFP. The Palestinians had to get sorted out to organize the vote.

"Israeli till will is very

vouched over five years.

But most of that is allotted to development projects, not the running costs of government. Donors are unhappy about how the PLO will use funds and have handed over little despite months of high-level meetings and frantic PLO appeals.

Mr. Nashashibi rejected the term "pay cut" to describe the reduction of police salaries, saying policemen were simply back on the same salaries they had had in exile in Arab states.

The man responsible for finance in the Palestinian self-rule authority said international donors had given just \$12 million to the PLO in the last two months despite promises of much more.

Mohammad Al Nashashibi also said in an interview with the Jerusalem newspaper Al Quds on Wednesday the self-rule authority was not yet raising taxes to cover its \$580 million annual budget and that Palestinian police salaries had been reduced.

The Palestinian treasury suffers from a deficit and what has come in so far from donor states is only \$12 million since the arrival of the (donors) undertaking to cover the deficit," Mr. Nashashibi said.

International donors promised about \$720 million in the first year of Palestinian self-rule, part of \$2.4 billion

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Nouredine Morcelli

Games president confirms athletes paid cash bonuses

ST. PETERSBURG (R) — Goodwill Games President Jacky Kelly confirmed Wednesday that its mile champion Nouredine Morcelli was one of several athletes paid extra money for exceptional performance in the competition.

Morcelli clocked the year's fastest time of three minutes 48.67 seconds as he won the title Tuesday night.

Kelly said he did not believe designated pacemakers in both the mile and 5,000 metres had cheapened the events.

"I think people came to watch a good race at the finish. They came to watch good times, and think they got what they came to see without cheapening the sport," Kelly said in an interview.

Pacemakers, who start but rarely ever finish races, are common on the Grand Prix circuit when a runner has arranged a world record attempt.

But they do not appear at major world competitions such as the Olympic Games or world championships

where the runners in finals must get through a series of qualifying rounds.

The Goodwill Games feature finals only with runners selected by invitation, although the organisers have been promoting the meeting as a genuine global championships.

Kelly said he did know the exact figure Algerian world record holder Morcelli would be paid but added he expected the amount would be in four figures.

"It would not be tens of thousands of dollars," he said.

Asked why the organisers bothered to have medal ceremonies if the outcome of races had been decided in advance by pacemaking, Kelly replied: "I don't think they were pre-determined. It was not decided who was going to win."

But Kenya's world 3,000 metres steeplechase Moses Kiptamui said Tuesday he had arranged for compatriot Kipuego Koriria and Ireland's Frank O'Mara to pace him in a world 5,000 metres world record attempt.

Kenya's world 5,000 metres record holder Moses Kiptamui said Tuesday he had arranged for compatriot Kipuego Koriria and Ireland's Frank O'Mara to pace him in a world 5,000 metres world record attempt.

Television sources said the day before the race Kiptamui would go for the record. The attempt failed, primarily because of windy conditions.

Morcelli's agent Aamer Brahimi said two other Algerians had been enlisted earlier this week as pacemakers.

Kelly said he was not worried by pacemakers at an event promoted by the organisers as major global competition.

"Do you see many races where there's not pacemanship?" he responded. "I was at the world championships last year and clearly there were a couple of runners from the same country who had their own strategies to how they wanted to encourage each other and maximize their own times."

"I don't think that's out of character."

Kelly, head of the company which organises the games and enlists their participants, said the extra money is offered during negotiations with athletes' representatives and their federations.

St Petersburg unlikely Mecca for beach culture

ST. PETERSBURG (R) — The words beach volleyball conjure up images of glamorous sun-tanned bodies male and female — leaping and diving around on California's golden beaches.

It's a sport with a mainstream American image, an image of wraparound sunglasses, headbands, knee supports and high-fives.

It is not a sport usually associated with a coastal town that nestles against the icy waters of the Gulf of Finland.

But if the message of the Goodwill Games is one of breaking down barriers, what better place could there be to stage the beach volleyball competition than in an artificially-created beach alongside a building that houses a burial crypt, is a former debtor's prison and is ice-bound for half the year.

St Petersburg's Peter and Paul Fortress, an 18th cen-

tury riverside edifice, may not be the obvious choice to stage a beach volleyball tournament — but it does have its plus points according to Georgy Yarkovenko, vice-president of the St Petersburg Volleyball Association.

"It is a surprising place for the event," he admitted, "but it has the best view in all of St Petersburg."

Overlooking the steely Neva River, the fortress offers panoramic views of golden spires, onion-domed churches and the Hermitage Museum.

"I can't imagine a more beautiful place in which to compete," said Claire Patterson, a Netherlands volleyball team member.

Part of the fortress grounds include a beach and military trucks hauled in tonnes of sand from northern Russia to cover the beach's original dusty, gravelly grit.

But international competi-

tors used to expansive, white-grained beaches were not too impressed with their imported playing surface.

"The new sand is hard," Patterson said. "But they're sweet to rake it after every match and pick out the rocks."

According to Yarkovenko, locals have long imagined the beach as a mini tropical oasis.

Each May, they begin a pilgrimage to the trash-littered strip to stand in baggy, Soviet underwear against the compound's sunlit but chilly walls.

"This is a northern city, with snow, ice and darkness over a lot of the year. So don't laugh at us," Yarkovenko said.

The Peter and Paul Fortress has "not always had a sun-in-the-sun" image, yet suddenly it is something of an attraction.

The distinctly relaxed sport, which features two

teams of two people, is the surprise hit of the games, with hundreds jostling each day for seats in the small stand.

The hundreds who come probably have little idea of the history of the place.

They are probably unaware that several members of Russia's imperial Romanov family lie buried in the edifice's waterlogged crypt.

They probably don't know that the remains of last Tsar Nicholas II, murdered by Bolshevik revolutionaries in 1918, will be laid to rest there next year and that Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoyevsky spent several years in the fortress' granite debtor's prison.

Up-market American tourists viewing the women's semifinals Monday lent the scene a swish aura as they chatted on cellular phones and drank bottled water. But

a fluffy California beach it was not.

A rickety yellow Russian bus blasted pop music from loudspeakers during the men's early matches last Saturday.

"Unlike our political history, our volleyball history is very short," Yarkovenko explained. "We started playing only two years ago."

Then, displaying what some might consider lunatic enthusiasm, he seemed to have been carried away by the spectacle.

"People in California will see this beach and its sights and will want to hold their tournaments here," he assured reporters.

If he was being joking, he wasn't letting on.

Beach volleyball in California is one thing. Beach volleyball in St Petersburg... that's a one-off.

Spurs sign Dumitrescu

LONDON (AP) — Romanian World Cup star Ilie Dumitrescu signed for English Premiership club Tottenham Hotspur Wednesday.

His 2.6 million transfer from Steaua Bucharest is subject to a medical Friday, and on the 25-year-old midfielder being granted a work permit.

Dumitrescu was a key member of the Romanian side that reached the World Cup quarterfinals in the United States.

He scored twice in the 3-2 second round win over Argentina.

Dumitrescu's arrival will give Spurs' Argentinian manager Osvaldo Ardiles some welcome relief from a summer of frustration in the transfer market.

First he was spurned by Dumitrescu's international teammate Gheorghe Hagi, who joined Barcelona, and then by Brazilian World Cup-winning defender Marcio Santos, who is expected to move to Italy.

Every day we were looking at each other and saying, "Why hasn't this man posted a reward?" Cooper said Monday.

She said rewards often involve more posturing than crime-solving. After all, "Anybody can set up a reward," she pointed out.

Anybody, indeed. New Jersey real estate magnate

Spilled beer lands Joyner-Kersee in trouble



U.S. athlete Jackie Joyner-Kersee is airborne during the women's heptathlon long-jump during the Goodwill Games' athletic competitions in St Petersburg Tuesday. (APF photo)

out," Joyner-Kersee said.

"After Bobby talked to the official he said I had broken the rules. He said he was just going to give me a warning and that it had better not happen again," Joyner-Kersee said.

"I was so upset that I was shedding tears."

Former U.S. Olympian Jane Frederick, now a coach, said the incident was uncalled for.

"It shook her up," said Frederick. "It was improper to make that comment to her."

Simpson reward grows... but do rewards work?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — From a hand-lettered sign offering \$20 for the return of a lost cat to the \$13.5 million bounty for the capture of fugitive Lord Pablo Escobar, rewards are as much a part of life as crime itself.

So many were not surprised when former American football great O.J. Simpson offered \$500,000 for information leading to the conviction of someone else in the slaying of his ex-wife and her friend.

People who study rewards, however, say the money rarely helps catch criminals — and often is put up by the perpetrators. But for those tips that do lead to convictions, legal experts say the promise of a reward is as good as a contract.

Paulette Cooper, coauthor of the book "Reward" about offers in 60 crimes, said it's common for the accused to offer a reward to project an air of innocence. That's why she and her husband and coauthor, Paul Noble, were surprised it took Simpson more than a month to make his offer.

The proposition is simple: Tell the magazine "Whodunit," and as long as it isn't Simpson, the magazine will pay \$1 million.

The catch? The money will be paid, the article says, "Provided the information grants Globe exclusive broadcast, screen and print rights to their story."

Law Professor Peter Arenella of the University of California, Los Angeles, doubted whether the man's offer was a new suspect.

The likelihood that they'll turn up usable material for a criminal investigation are probably pretty small," Arenella said. "The reward press conference was

just that — a press conference designed to portray Mr. Simpson as a "financially innocent person."

If someone does exonerate Simpson, however, that person will be in for a windfall. Reward offers are legally binding, said W. David Slawson, a law professor at the University of Southern California.

"You would regard those as an offer to buy a used car or anything else," Slawson said. "If any member of the public complies with their terms they'd be contractually obligated to comply with the offer."

While not as numerous as calls to Simpson's toll-free tip line, reward offers are still common.

Actress Winona Ryder put up \$200,000 last year for the safe return of Polly Klaas, the 12-year-old girl kidnapped from her home and later found dead.

President Bush offered \$1 million — which was never paid — for help ferreting Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega out of the Panamanian diplomatic mission in his U.S.-occupied country. And combined offers put a \$25.5 million price tag on the head of Escobar, the drug lord, before he was killed last year by Colombian authorities.

The likelihood that they'll turn up usable material for a criminal investigation was shared by the men who hunted him down and by widows and orphans of his victims.

Goodwill Games women team defeats Team Select

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — The Goodwill Games women's team used its defense, quickness and experience to build a 23-point halftime lead and cruise to a 104-47 exhibition victory Tuesday night over Team Select at the Charlotte Coliseum.

The game, played before 3,000 during the team's first run, while Sheryl Swoopes, the 1993 national college player of the year at Texas Tech, had six. Swoopes, Leslie and Ruthie Bolton-Holifield led the Goodwill team with 12 each.

The U.S. women are 10-0 in Goodwill Games competition, winning gold medals in 1986 and 1990. The team recently won the bronze medal in the world championships in Australia.

Team Select, a group of current and former college players, fell behind early against the older and internationally experienced Goodwill team, going scoreless for

a 5½-minute stretch as the Goodwill team built an 18-6 lead.

With Dawn Staley excelling at point guard, the Goodwill team pulled away in the first 20 minutes despite poor foul shooting.

Lisa Leslie scored seven points during the team's first run, while Sheryl Swoopes, the 1993 national college player of the year at Texas Tech, had six. Swoopes, Leslie and Ruthie Bolton-Holifield led the Goodwill team with 12 each.

The select team, plagued by 15 first-half fouls, pulled to 21-12 with 7:35 left before halftime, but a 16-5 run over the next five minutes pushed the Goodwill team's lead to 20 points. Shanda Berry had six points during the spurt.

A 24-footer by Swoopes to end the half and another less than two minutes into the second half pushed the margin to 30 points.

GOREN BRIDGE

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FINE PLAY BY YOUNG STAR

Both vulnerable North deals.

NORTH
♦ Q J 9 7 6
♦ Q 6 5
♦ Q 2
♦ A J 8 5
♦ 10 8 4
♦ 5 2
♦ K 10 9 7 6 3 0 Q J 5
♦ 4 3

SOUTH
♦ K 3
♦ 10 9 8 7
♦ Q 8 6
♦ K Q 8 6

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Dbl Rdb Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♦
To call them "juniors" is sometimes a misnomer — the age limit is 25. Certainly, the skill of the players in the World Junior Championship, held recently in Denmark, showed the future of women's basketball.

Winnipeg's Tamara Green of Australia on this hand from an early round of the tournament.

North's one-dimensional opening bid systematically showed a spade suit. East made a questionable double — our choice would have been an

overall chance to direct a lead, or a quiet pass. Three no trump was reached in quick time.
West led the ten of diamonds. East produced the jack and declarer held up the queen. After casting the king of hearts, East returned to the queen of diamonds, again withhold the ace. West could have been able to overtake with the king and switch back to a heart, giving the defenders three heart tricks and two diamonds. But declarer rose with the ace and now had to give up eight more tricks without giving up the lead.
The obvious way to go about that would be to take the spade finesse, but declarer was concerned by the double. To neutralize the lady declarer crossed to the jack of clubs and led the jack of spades!
Had East covered with the queen, declarer would have won with the king and then led a spade to the nine to complete the backhand finesse. West then withheld the queen of clubs, played low from hand and the jack won. Despite declarer's good spades to the king, declarer was beaten my with the ace of clubs and ended the ace of spades. When the six broke evenly, declarer had 30 tricks.

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And
Beirut Symphonic Band
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• Selections from the Musical "Phantom of the Opera"
• Selections from Walt Disney's musical films "Aladdin" "Beauty and the Beast" and "the Little Mermaid"
• Mariah Carey's "Hero" and Billy Joel's "River of Dreams"
• Prokofiev's "Peter and

RIDAY, JULY 28-29
ands
trouble

Sports

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lightning strikes soccer team

BAD SCHUSSERIED, Germany (AP) — Lightning struck six members of a soccer team during a stadium here, critically injuring one, police said Wednesday. The 24-year-old player was directly struck by the bolt Tuesday evening and was in critical condition Wednesday in hospital in this southern town. The team's 32-year-old trainer suffered severe shock and four other players were knocked off their feet by the flash, police said. The lightning struck as the 15 players were huddled around the trainer for a team talk.

Italian GP may be run after all

MILAN (R) — The Italian Formula One Grand Prix at Monza, called off two weeks ago because of safety reasons, may be run after all, officials ruled Tuesday. The regional assembly of Lombardy approved a plan to remove over 500 trees around the "great curve" of the Monza track in accordance with recommendations made by Ferrari driver Gerhard Berger. The plan must now be approved by Milan's Environmental and Cultural Affairs Office before the Sept. 11 race can go ahead, officials said. Italy's government had asked the Grand Prix Drivers' Association (GPDA), to see whether safety conditions were adequate at the Monza track after Italy's Motor Sports Federation (CSAI) called off the race. Berger, who represents the GPDA said the "great curve" had to be made straighter before the race could take place.

Lalas fails to sign for Padova

PADUA, Italy (R) — American World Cup star Alexi Lalas arrived in Italy Tuesday but failed to sign with Padova as expected, a spokesman for the first division club said. The spokesman said Lalas, 24, had promised to sign with the club, newly promoted to Serie A, after meeting club officials, who presented the player to hundreds of screaming fans. But Lalas first wanted his lawyer in New York to review the faxed copy of the contract. "Lalas promised us he will send back a signed copy of the contract by midnight local time on Wednesday," spokesman Gildo Fattori said. "we don't think Lalas is pulling our leg." Lalas has also been linked with English premier league club Coventry and VFL Bochum in Germany. He is now due to return to the northern Italian city Monday when, for the second time, he is expected to sign for Padova to become the first American to play in the Italian league.

Detari heads for Switzerland

GENEVA (R) — Hungarian international midfielder Lajos Detari has signed a one-year contract with Neuchatel Xamax, the Swiss first division club announced Tuesday. Detari, 31, who has 57 caps, joins Xamax from Genoa, after earlier spells with Eintracht Frankfurt and Olympiakos Piraeus. The transfer fee was not disclosed. Neuchatel trainer Frenchman Gilbert Gress said Detari had signed just before the transfer deadline, and would be eligible to play when the new season starts Wednesday.

Christie "fit for Helsinki"

LONDON (AFP) — Olympic sprint champion Linford Christie will be fit to defend his European 100m in Helsinki, according to Great Britain teammate Colin Jackson. The 34-year-old Londoner, sidelined for two weeks with a torn hamstring, has been given the thumbs-up by a specialist in Munich, Jackson said Wednesday. The world 100m hurdles champion, in St. Petersburg for the Goodwill Games, said: "Linford is going to be there. The problem has cleared up and it should be plain sailing for him from now on. He believes the break might have been for the best. He had been feeling quite tired." Jackson said Christie, bidding for a third successive European title, would either return in a Monte Carlo grand prix meeting next Tuesday, or head straight into the championships five days later.

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Iraq wins Jordanian handball championship

By Roufan Nahhas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Iraqi women's handball team Wednesday defeated its Jordanian counterpart 21-15 to win the Jordan Women's Handball Championship organised by the Jordan Handball Federation.

The experienced Iraqi team took control of the game and attacked with full power against the tired Jordanian defence.

Although the Jordanian team began scoring, the Iraqi team took the lead, ending the first half 12-6.

The second half witnessed several attempts by the Jordanian team to reduce the difference, but that did not stop the fast and accurate attack of the Iraqi team, which kept on scoring to give no chance for the Jordanians to concentrate their attempts.

The Jordanian team who looked confused, tired and lacking concentration brought in Badia Haddad to replace Rana Lahham for some time to reduce the difference but for no avail.

The Jordanian team took the second place in the championship, followed by the Cypriot team.

The Iraqi team earlier beat the Cypriot team 20-15; and Jordan defeated Cyprus 22-20.



Rana Laham tries to score (right) as Iraq's Amira Hanna leaps to defend and Najla's Madiouw watches

Jordan Handball Federation
Chairman Abrahim Haddad

convinced the idea of having such championships which give the chance to the national side to compete with foreign teams.

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, Haddad said the team needs all the support it can get.

"What the team needs is more experienced and more exposure," she said.

Lendl beats Mattar

TORONTO (R) — Ivan Lendl, the 12th seed, began his longshot quest for a seventh crown at the \$1.72 million Canadian open tennis tournament with a decisive 64, 6-1 first-round victory over Luiz Mattar of Brazil Tuesday.

In the only other match featuring a seeded player, 15th-seeded Ritchie Rebeberg easily defeated fellow American Patrick McEnroe 63, 6-1 in the first round.

Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland spoiled Canadian Greg Rusedski's chance of moving into the second round by winning a marathon 64, 3-6.

It was done with a needle," Lendl reported. "A very long and very pointy

Lendl had a slow start against the 46th-ranked Mattar, falling behind 2-0 in the opening set. But he immediately broke even to 2-2, then on a winning backhand at 30-40 in the fifth game took a lead he never surrendered.

In the second set, Mattar held serve only in the fifth game and Lendl lost just four points on his serve.

"I still enjoy competing,"

Lendl said. "I felt a little bit caught by surprise by the cold conditions out there tonight. I had trouble adjusting to that for a while."

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GE

G STAR

of one heart to direct a lead at pass. Three no trump was

in quick time. Led the ten of diamonds — induced the jack and declared the lead. After cashing the ten, West reverted to the diamonds. Had declared the ace, he would have been able to overtakes with the king. He switched back to a heart, the defenders three heart and two diamonds. But declarer had two more tricks without the ace and now had eight more tricks without the lead.

vious way to go about that to take the spade finesse. He was convinced by East that the queen of spades was the best bet. He neutralized the lady and led to the jack of clubs.

East covered with the queen and won with the nine.

He led a spade to the nine, the backwoods finesse, at withheld the queen, declarer continued with a low from hand and cashed the king returned to the lead. The queen of clubs and cashed the king of spades. When the suit finally declarer had 10 tricks.

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 28-29, 1994 11

Schumacher's team ponder appeal against 2-race ban

LONDON (R) — The Benetton team were considering Wednesday whether to appeal against Michael Schumacher's two-race ban and enable him to compete in the German Grand Prix this weekend.

Schumacher, the Formula One world championship leader, was given the ban by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) Tuesday as punishment for failing to obey an official instruction at the British Grand Prix earlier this month.

The FIA said Schumacher

told the six points he won by finishing second in the grand prix and Benetton were fined \$500,000.

Brazilian driver Rubens Barrichello and Finn Mika Hakkinen were both given one-race bans by the FIA

Tuesday, also for offences at Silverstone July 10. But their bans were suspended for three races.

The pair collided on the final bend of the race and Hakkinen overtook another car on the formation lap.

Hill, the Silverstone winner,

was also summoned to appear before the FIA world

council disciplinary hearing in Paris to explain his action in collecting a British flag

from a spectator during his slow-down lap.

But Hill, who will be

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli navy gets new missile boat

HAIFA (AFP) — The Israeli navy commissioned Wednesday a new missile corvette, the largest vessel in its fleet, equipped with a battery of the latest U.S. and Israeli technology. The navy described the first of three Saar 5 ships on order from the United States as a "new generation" of vessel capable of attacking surface ships and submarines as well as defending against incoming missiles and aircraft. The 1,275-tonne craft with a maximum speed of 34 knots and a helicopter landing pad, was named the "Eilat." Onboard computers and weapons systems were Israeli-built while the radar is a joint U.S.-Israeli project. President Ezer Weizman and Chief of Staff General Ehud Barak attended the ceremony at Haifa. The other two Saar 5 boats are due for delivery before the end of next year. The Israeli navy has about 50 combat vessels ranging from submarines to missile-armed hydrofoils.

Iran holds exercises near Iraqi border

TEHRAN (AFP) — The Iranian army held military exercises near the Iraqi border on Wednesday to mark the sixth anniversary of a "failed offensive" by an Iraq-based rebel group, Iranian state radio said. The one-day manoeuvres, involving top army commanders, included the bombardment of a region near Iraq occupied by a pretend enemy. In the operation, dubbed "Mersad," the army and volunteers repelled a major offensive similar to one launched from Iraq by the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, the main armed Iranian opposition group, in 1988.

U.S. warns citizens in Algeria of possible attack

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said Tuesday that it had received information indicating that Americans may be targeted for attack or kidnapping in Algeria. "We have information indicating that an attack on or kidnapping of Americans may be planned" said a U.S. embassy advisory in Algiers released by the State Department spokesman's office. The advisory said U.S. authorities were not in a position "to determine the veracity of the information, but believe all such threats should be taken seriously." It said the embassy was in touch with the Algerian authorities and had requested their full cooperation. It also urged Americans in Algeria to exercise "utmost precaution."

Turkish park fire brought under control

GELIBOLU (AP) — A fire fanned by high winds raced through Gallipoli national park on Tuesday, destroying almost all its wood and killing a firefighter. The fire on the Gallipoli peninsula, overlooking the Dardanelles, burned 20,000 hectares of forest, said Kemal Tarim, a spokesman for the Ecebat government. The region was the scene of a World War I battle in 1915 between allied forces and the Turks for control of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus straits. The months-long fighting resulted in severe casualties before the allies withdrew. The explosions of two mines, left from the battle of the Gallipoli, panicked some firefighters, the Anatolia news agency said. Firefighters aided by army troops were deployed to battle the blaze, which was briefly brought under control Tuesday before being whipped up again by winds. The fire started Monday, and may have been caused by farmers burning wheat stubble to clear fields after harvest. Two villages and a camping area in the Saros Bay were evacuated.

Mubarak gives okay for 5 militants to hang

CAIRO (AFP) — President Hosni Mubarak has ratified death sentences imposed on five militants for trying to kill Interior Minister Hassan Al Alf, an Egyptian newspaper reported Wednesday. The five were sentenced to hang on July 16 by the Cairo high military court for a bomb attack in the Egyptian capital last August which wounded General Alfi in the arm, killed three passers-by and two militants. The five whose death sentences were ratified by Mr. Mubarak Tuesday have the right to appeal in the next two weeks, the semi-official daily Al Gomhouria said. Ten more defendants were sentenced by the court to terms ranging from three years in prison to five years' hard labour. Two others were acquitted. Nine were charged with being members of Talaat Al Fatah (Vanguard of the Conquest), the military wing of the fundamentalist group Al Jihad (holy war). Military courts have handed down 55 death sentences since 1992, 39 of which have been carried out.

15,000 face expulsion from S. Arabia

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — About 150,000 Afghans, Burmese and Bangladeshi living in Pakistan face an uncertain future after Islamabad's decision to disown them, a newspaper said Wednesday. Saudi Arabia has threatened to deport the immigrants to Pakistan if Islamabad cancels or refuses to renew their passports, the Muslim daily said. The English language daily said the immigrants were given Pakistani passports under the government of military强人General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, who ruled Pakistan from 1977 until his death in a 1988 plane crash. Current Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was a fierce opponent of Zia, who ordered the execution of her father, former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, in 1979. The paper quoted Interior Minister Nasrullah Babar as saying: "They are not our liability and should not be deported to Pakistan." The report said the Saudi government was insisting that the immigrants were Pakistani nationals under Saudi law and that Pakistan was responsible for them. The two governments were holding talks on the issue through diplomatic channels, the report said.

Israeli farmers get \$40 m compensation

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli government agreed Wednesday to pay farmers \$40 million over the next four years to offset losses caused by the opening of local markets to Palestinian vegetables, officials said. The finance and agriculture ministries signed the deal with farmers' groups. Tomato, cucumber, aubergine, courgette and potato growers will receive money to help switch to other production since Palestinian vegetables are cheaper, largely thanks to lower labour costs. Under the Paris agreement, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation agreed on free movement of agricultural produce, although restrictions on poultry, eggs, potatoes, cucumbers, tomatoes and melons will not be lifted totally until 1998.

Kuwait campus to segregate sexes

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait University's arts faculty plans to segregate men and women students from September in an experiment hailed by Islamists as an advance for their cause, the Arab Times reported on Wednesday. The English-language daily reported faculty dean Abdullah Al Mahanna as saying the arts campus would become all-male on Sept. 24 for a trial period of several months. Women students would be moved to a separate campus. The newspaper said the decision followed a campaign for segregation by the National Union of Kuwaiti Students, which is controlled by Islamists who want to turn the small emirate into an Islamic state. Neither Mr. Mahanna nor university rector Fayza Al Kharafi could be contacted immediately for comment. Two academics said by telephone they did not believe the plan could work because the university's teaching schedule was not arranged to allow for segregation of the sexes.

Iranian blamed for Argentina explosion

Buenos Aires (Agencies) — An Iranian soldier on a lengthy visit here planned the bombing of the Jewish charity that killed at least 95 people and injured 250 others, a private news agency reported.

Dios y Noticias (DyN) quoted judicial sources as saying that the description of the Iranian soldier was contained in a statement to Argentine authorities by Maucher Moatamer, a former Iranian diplomat who defected.

Mr. Moatamer has been living in exile since last week in Caracas, Venezuela where Argentine Federal Judge Juan Jose Galeano travelled in secret for two days this week to meet with him.

The judge also obtained a list of suspects involved in the 1992 attack on the Israeli embassy here that killed 30 people and in the July 18 bombing of Argentine Jewish Mutual Association building.

Mr. Moatamer may have detailed operations of Iranian-backed groups in Latin America, according to reports.

Mr. Galeano told reporters that dramatic information about the attack on the Jewish charity would be released "at the opportune moment" and that the information "is going to blow you over."

President Carlos Menem, in an interview late Tuesday with Chilean television, said that "the investigation is going well," adding that the probe was focusing on "Islamic, Shiite organisations basic in Lebanon."

Mr. Menem, however, said those organisations merely carried out orders and that the ultimate goal was determining who were "the masterminds and where the funds for such (acts) come from."

Foreign Minister Guido de Tella summoned Iranian Ambassador Haid Soleiman Pour on Tuesday for the second time in 24 hours.

"We talked about many subjects and about terrorism, of which our country is also a victim," Mr. Soleiman said, adding that Tehran condemned the attack and that diplomatic relations between the two countries would continue.

Authorities reported the arrest Tuesday of three Iranian suspects in the Buenos Aires bombing — two men and a woman.

According to DyN, the woman was an employee of the Iranian embassy who allegedly purchased a delivery truck that served as the car-bomb that levelled the seven-storey Jewish charity.

The woman was arrested at Ezeiza international airport for carrying a forged passport, according to federal police sources quoted by Telam, the state news agency.

The other two suspects reportedly worked at the car dealership that sold the van.

Lebanon has said it has no information about the group implicated in the bomb attack.

"Lebanon has no information whatsoever about the implication of a Lebanese group" in the bombing, Foreign Minister Fares Bouez told AFP late Tuesday.

He said the Argentine Foreign Ministry summoned Lebanon's ambassador in Buenos Aires, Ryad Al Qantar, and asked him for Beirut's cooperation to find those behind the bombing.

The Argentine foreign ministry told Mr. Qantar they had information indicating that the Muslim fundamentalist group Ansarullah (Followers of God) was a branch of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group, which spearheads anti-Israeli attacks in South Lebanon.

Last week President Menem said Ansarullah had issued a statement in Sidon, Lebanon, claiming responsibility for the bombing in Buenos Aires.

The statement, issued late Friday, mentioned Monday's bombing as well as an attack Tuesday on a Panamanian commuter plane that killed 21 people, including 12 leading Jewish businessmen. But it did not directly claim responsibility for the two attacks.

"We do not consider this statement which was carried by an international news agency as serious proof, namely because it has been denied," Mr. Bouez said. The United Nations on Tuesday confirmed Yemeni reconciliation talks would take place under U.N. envoy Lakhdar Brahimi who has continued to mediate between the Yemen factions.



BLAST IN LONDON: The wreckage of a car-bomb that exploded early Wednesday in North Finchley, London, is visible among the debris on the street. The bomb, the second

N. Korea has 5 nuclear warheads, defector says

SEOUL (Agencies) — North Korea has developed five nuclear warheads and is now concentrating on building missiles to carry them, a North Korean defector — the son-in-law of his country's prime minister — said Wednesday.

Kang Myon-Do, 36, told a news conference in the South Korean capital Seoul that North Korea was not simply using suspicious about its nuclear programme as a negotiating tactic to obtain diplomatic concessions from the West.

Appearing confident and relaxed, he said the head of operations at the North's nuclear plant at Yongbyon told him in October 1993 that Pyongyang has secured five nuclear bombs.

"I understand North Korea had completed developing five nuclear warheads by the end of last year," he said.

"It seems nuclear development is the only means to maintain Kim Jong-Il's regime," he said, referring to the son of North Korea's late Kim Il-Sung who has apparently smoothly succeeded his father as leader of the Stalinist state.

Soul's agency for National Security Planning (NSP) said Kang Myon-Do was the vice president of trading company run by the North Korean presidential palace's accounting division, and had sought asylum in the south in May through a third country.

An NSP spokesman said it had needed time to confirm Mr. Kang was a real son-in-law of Prime Minister Kang Song-San and for intensive investigation "because he's from a really high-ranking family in the north."

Russian experts had

advised North Korea on its nuclear programme.

Yonhap quoted South Korean experts as saying that it appeared extremely unlikely on the basis of current intelligence reports that North Korea would have been able to complete the five stages needed to build a bomb.

Those five stages, it said, were plutonium extraction, test detonation, combining the first two, assembly of a bomb and placing the warhead on the delivery mechanism.

Before his death July 8, Kim Il-Sung denied the North was producing a bomb, and joked that there was no place for his country to test.

Placing the warhead on the means of delivery requires tens of thousands of precision parts, Yonhap quoted the expert as saying.

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-Joo Wednesday declined comment on reports that North Korea had nuclear bombs.

"I have not received any details from Seoul about that," he said in Bangkok.

Mr. Han was speaking after talks in Bangkok with his counterparts from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on security, political and economic issues.

A senior U.S. official at the talks said that Mr. Kang's claim underlined the importance of Washington's moves for talks with North Korea on the nuclear issue.

"Reports like this make (U.S.-North Korea) talks all the more important," Thomas Hubbard, deputy assistant secretary for East Asia and Pacific affairs, said.

Turkey has urged Iran to stop what it says are cross-border attacks by PKK separatists.

Turks said rebel Kurds inside Iraq

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkish forces killed at least 70 rebel Kurds 20 kilometres inside Iraq in their first cross-border air raid in two months, officials said on Wednesday.

Armed forces spokesman Colonel Dogu Silahcioglu told Reuters that Tuesday's air strikes killed more than 70 guerrillas of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) and destroyed a munitions store.

"Planes struck a group of about 100 PKK bandits preparing for a cross-border attack into Turkey," he said.

"They hit early Tuesday and over 70 bandits were killed."

"The raid is now over," he said. "But we will continue to hit northern Iraq as necessary. We will do all we can against threats to our state."

Turkish air forces last struck Iraqi territory in mid-May, when they hit a PKK camp in Zaleh, more than 100 kilometres from the Iraqi-Turkish frontier. A week-long strike in April had killed about 80 rebels in north Iraq, officials said.

Turkish President Suleyman Demirel wound up a visit to Iran on Wednesday with the two neighbours pledging to thwart rebel groups.

Mr. Demirel told reporters on his departure that his two-day visit "opened a new chapter" in relations with Tehran and the two countries will cooperate to prevent "terrorists from using our soil."

Turkey has urged Iran to stop what it says are cross-border attacks by PKK separatists.

Small Rwandan boy almost buried alive

GOMA, Zaire (AFP) — A six-year-old Rwandan boy shovelled into a truck with scores of rotting corpses was plucked to safety as he struggled to climb out of a mass grave Tuesday outside this Zairean town, an AFP photographer said. In one of the daily scenes of horror in the ongoing Rwandan crisis, the naked boy apparently was picked up while asleep or unconscious along with dozens of the corpses that line the roadsides near Goma, across the border from Rwanda, and now home to more than a million refugees. Piled onto a truck that unloaded the bodies into a mass grave two kilometres north of the town, he was saved by the driver of an excavator who suddenly noticed a body move, the photographer said. The child, struggling to escape and almost smothered, has been taken to a centre for lost and orphaned children.

Snubbed on trip to Far East

KHABAROVSK, Russia (AP) — Vladimir Zhirinovsky endured another snub when the head of the regional administration refused to meet with the ultranationalist lawmaker during his nationwide tour. It was the second time in the past month that Mr. Zhirinovsky has received a cool welcome in a regional capital. He began his current trip last Saturday in an effort to boost his sagging popularity. In late June Mr. Zhirinovsky angrily stormed into the governor's office in Nizhny Novgorod after being met at the airport by demonstrators who called him a fascist and told him to go home. Regional officials had refused to meet him, and the governor — who was out of town at the time — later filed a complaint against Mr. Zhirinovsky for breaking into his office and threatening his staff. Viktor Ishayev, head of the Khabarovsk region in Russia's Far East, said he would not meet with Mr. Zhirinovsky or welcome his delegation to the region, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported. A Zhirinovsky spokesman in Moscow dismissed Mr. Ishayev's snub, saying such a meeting was "not important." Andrei Losev, Mr. Zhirinovsky's chief of staff, said his boss met with Khabarovsk voters Tuesday and then left for Vladivostok.

U.S. Women to operate combat helicopters

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The army will send women to operate Cobra and Apache helicopters flying cover in air cavalry units for tanks on the battlefield, Pentagon sources said Tuesday. But women are still barred from operating the key field artillery weapon Multiple Launch Rocket System or to fly choppers for stealthy special operations units, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity. The expanded role for women close to the battlefield, coupled with the restrictions marks a compromise between Army Secretary Togo West pushing for more women in battle units and Army Chief of Staff General Gordon Sullivan who wants a more limited approach. Women will be barred from infantry, armour and field artillery combat units, which make up about 27 per cent of the army posts. Air cavalry units operate within sight of an opposing force but they are not expected to come in direct contact with the enemy.

German-Russian team to study Arctic ice floes

KIEL, Germany (AFP) — A German-Russian expedition will set off for the Arctic Thursday to study the effect of global warming, the Geomar Institute in the northern city said. Thirty-one scientists are to look into the consequences of global warming on ice floes in the Laptev Sea, expedition leader Heidemarie Kassens said. The Russian coast between the Severnaya Zemlya and Novosibirskiye Islands.

Sanaa pays Aden wages, lifts curfew

ADEN (Agencies) — The Yemeni government told state workers in Aden they would receive their first wages in four months starting on Wednesday in another move likely to restore confidence to citizens of the defence south.

State workers in the Aden region have not been paid since just before the outbreak of war between northern and southern Yemeni forces on May 4.

Finance Ministry Under-Secretary Mohammad Yahya Al Hououb said June wages would be paid immediately to all state workers in the governorate of Aden and July salaries would be disbursed next week. Payment of arrears for April and May were being worked out.

As representatives of the victorious government and their southern rivals prepared to meet in Geneva for peace talks on Thursday, Sanaa has sped up the effort to get Aden back on its feet again.

It has lifted a night curfew imposed last week on the city that became the southern secessionist stronghold to stop the widespread looting which followed Aden's fall to northern troops on July 7.

The United Nations on Tuesday confirmed Yemeni reconciliation talks would take place under U.N. envoy Lakhdar Brahimi who has continued to mediate between the Yemen factions.

Israeli newspapers urge early polls

Yedioth Achronot wrote in an editorial.

"You thought things would move at their own pace," as you said. But they ran, galloped. In one year you twice shook the hands of Arab leaders on the White House lawn, and they recognised Israel and committed to peace with it." Yet, your coalition is in danger, it is very weak. You are angry at Shas, Yidit, Meretz (political parties) and your ministers. Spare your nerves, Yitzhak, go to elections now.

The people of Israel will show their gratitude," it said.

A top Israeli official said Israel will benefit financially from its interim agreement with Jordan and could finally become part of the Mideast.

The historic accord signed by Mr. Rabin and King Hussein in Washington Monday approved a number of steps towards normalisation including direct telephone links, joint electricity grids, free tourist access and accelerated talks on an international air corridor.

Efforts to bring religious and rightist parties into the government to create a majority have been frustrating.

"Yitzhak Rabin, surely two years ago, when you started serving as prime minister, you didn't dream in less than 24 months you would make so many mirac-

ulous," Yedioth Achronot

made the same point on Tuesday.

Mr. Rabin's centre-left coalition fails short of mustering a 61-seat majority in the 120-seat parliament. It must